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U . S . A .

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**VIA AIR MAIL
PAR AVION**

PS. OVERSIDE /

G. LEGMAN

LA CLÉ DES CHAMPS
VALBONNE · AM · FRANCE

06560

PS. Do you have WW-I prose in ~~the~~ John
Brophy & Eric Partridge, Slang &
Slang of The British Soldier, 1914-18
(in 3rd ed only 1931) p. 271-272 [P. see p. 228]
as "The Showman" "Wash..."
noted as "P. Wash..."

21st July 1975

Dear Dick,

Very glad to hear from you and to know you are still "in the field." NO LAUGHING MATTER (RatiOnale-II) is now ready, and can be ordered at prepublication price of \$15 from Breaking Point, Inc., P.O. Box No. 328, Wharton, New Jersey 07885: this will go up to \$18 on publication end of next month. It may seem like a lot but really is not, as it is a 992-page (!) book, very densely set: really an encyclopedia. I recently paid \$12.50 for a 256-page dictionary, just for a comparison... Would like to say I am expecting NLM will be a sensation in the folklore field, but I have found people just find me an embarrassment (because I don't divide up everything I write into 8-page journal articles, "to make more lines in my "personal bibliography," for when I change universities the way I have been advised is the proper procedure). At any rate, this time, much more than Rat.I, have tried to produce a real guide-to-the-literature (before 1939!!...) for folklorists, many of whom I have observed are suffering from a type of optical paralysis known as NEVER CRACKING THE BINDING OF A BOOK, owing to pressing too hard on the trigger of their tape-recorders: instant folklore while the folklorist sleeps. You know I ain't kidding, so I don't have to mention any names. (But could

As I am far from certain that my piece on "Bawdy Monologues" (and the one on "Rhymed Recitations" even more importantly, as it shows the origins of modern Negro "toasts" in the Scottish secret men's clubs of the 18th century, with texts to prove it), will, in fact, ever get published in a learned journal -- too long, too this, too that, you know the story -- I am glad to share with you here the little I know about "The Hamburg Show," to implement your own further work on this, whenever:-

~~polite-text-prose~~
The earliest version is identical with that in John Ashton's Modern Street Ballads (1888), except that he expurgates the words "damme" and "damned" throughout, from the original appearance in The Fountain of Mirth (Paisley, Scotland: G. Caldwell, 1840) p. 19-23, of which my own copy is now repositored in Ohio State Univ. at Columbus. Beyond 1840, I can only suggest the tradition (no texts) implied in Ben Jonson's play Bartholomew Fair (c.1610), especially the circus-side-show style display of the child -- probably really a midget -- with a very large penis. You will have observed that Ashton's and the 1840 text are called "Humours of Bartlemy [St. Bartholomew's] Fair," which gives the key to the milieu.

I take it the bawdy text in The Stag Party [of which the exact date can be proved to be 1888, by the references to the current presidential election] p. 216-218 unnumb. is the one you are referring to, as "Short Sketches of Bible History." Note the whole biblical background of this, with no animules at all, but including the repeated stage-business and refrain, "Boy, turn the crank." I suspect this is the un-expurgated version of the milder similar scene about the wax statue of "Judas Iskariot" in Charles Farrar Browne's Artemus Ward, His Book (1862).

This "Hamburg Show" item, in its obscene/prose form has in part become another (or two other) bawdy recitation(s) called "Daniel in the Lion's Den," of which there is also a text in Immortalia (1927). "Daniel" continues with the strictly biblical part, including lines taken directly from the Stag Party's "Short Sketches" form, and the animals creep in owing to Daniel's adventures with the lions. The whole idea has changed, however, to a sort of competition in "selling bargains" between the King and Daniel, each of whose replies "chalks up one for the common people" &c. The farthest-out form is "The King of the Goddam Isles" alluded to in Joyce's Ulysses, 1904/22, and drawn from Geo. A. Sala's Harlequin Prince Cherrytop (1879: see discussion in my The Horn Book), also known as "The Sod's Opera." This title is of a mythical piece, or any kind of farce by soldiers, miners, or other men without women, played in part in transvestist drag. The private "Royal Nonesuch" performance in Mark Twain's

Huckleberry Finn (1885) is intended to allude to just such an obscene entertainment "for men only" in Twain's Nevada days. The ritual element is very prominent in the "King of the Goddam Islands" (also called "The Bos'un") where the audience recites responsories like "cunning little bugger" everytime the Bos'un is mentioned, or "the asshole of the earth" at every reference to the Kingdom of Bungholia, etc.etc.etc.

This is another development from "The Hamburg Show," where the responses of the audience (doubtless rugby teams, as you note) are a big element in my Australian texts, and one of the funniest parts, e.g.

Rec./Here, lydied and gentlemen, we have the Fuckawi tribe-

Aud./-- Fuckawi tribe? Faaan-TAS-tick!! \$[screaming the "TAS-"]

Rec./The three-foot Fuckawi tribe lives in deepest Africa where

the grass is four feet high. -- Comes up over their eyes!

They run wildly through the tall grass, agitating their

spears and shields, while shouting, "We're the Fuckawi?"

We're the Fuckawi?"

As the dialectal pronunciation of "we're" for "where" shows, this is

as Austyrian as they make 'em! This text goes on to the animals now,

and each first line by the reciter, gets the same responsory, "The ooli-

gooli bird? Faaan-TAS-tic!" and similarly throughout. The audience

also gives the "Wild West Show" chorus (sung) between animals, with

variant end-line, "As long as we re together, bugger the bloody

weather, We re off to see the Wild West show!"

As you say, there is no unilinear item here, but I suspect

both the "Daniel" and "Goddam Isles" items could be shown even more

positively to be offshoots of "The Bartlemy [Amarg]" show, if only

we had more texts earlier than the 1920's. But printed sources are

damned rare for the past, as you know.

Keep the faith!

Gershon

10th, Australia, 1964.

Wild West Show Tapes

1. 1862 - Bob Hart's Plantation Songster
2. 1867 - Selected Songs Sung at Harvard College
3. 1870 - The Old Clown's "WH-O-A January" Songster
4. 1870 - The Beauty of the Blondes' Songster
5. 1876 - "Yankee Robinson's" "Beautiful Amazon" Songster
6. 1876 - The American College Songster
7. 1882 - The Van Amburgh and Clown Songster
8. 1888 - Aston, Modern Street Ballads
9. ca. 1890 - The Stag Party
10. 1920 - The Cruise of the New Decameron
11. October 5, 1921 - Capt. Billy's Whig Gang

12. 1926 - Read 'Em + Weep
13. 1927 - Immentalia
14. 1929 - Bibliothque Erotique
15. 1942 - Dolph, sound off
16. 1944 - Hunter text (HSC)
17. 1948 - Folk Poems and Ballads
18. 1950 - Sweeney text (HSC)
19. 1952 - Old American Ballads
20. 1955 - Boone text (HSC)
21. 1956 - Bradley text (HSC)
22. 1956 - Quisenberry + Colvert text (WITSC)
23. 1962 - Vincent text (HSC)
24. 1963 - Woody Hamble - Folklore + Song
25. 1965 - McCulloch Music
26. 1965 - Mc Fadden text
27. 1965 - Walden text
28. 1965 - Hillman text
29. ca. 1965 - U of Md. text
30. Fall, 1967 - Anaya paper
31. Oct. 1967 - Bray text
32. Sept. 1968 - NYEQ Trujillo article
33. 1968 - More Rugby Song
34. 1969 - Barbara K-G letter

Other text,

Tony Aston, Funny Old Clowns Songster, N.I.

Wag, The Crocker House?

The Clowns "Shoo Fly" Songster, N.I.

Other Text

Edith Fowler informant (Fletcher & Sonnet), 1863

Aston, Modern Street Ballad (London, 1888), 111-115

Lead 'em + Weep, 65-67 - 1926^R; see college song
noted for old, vs. (orig. ed.)

Sound Off, p. 55 (Polph) - 1942

Tony Apton, Funny Old Clown Songster

The Van Ambeyle and

Clown Songster (1882), 64 pp.

~~1845~~

Other Refs

The Hornbook

Rationale of the Duty John (?)

The Euter Muse (?)

The Circus: Its Origin + Character Prior to 1835

Chendahl, A History of the Circus in America,

Coxton, 1821-1865, 1882.

Truggie circus song article NYPA for refs.

soon upon the floor engaged in a regular rough-and-tumble fight. Two-thirds of the foot-lights were at once kicked over, while shouts of "Fair play," "Turn 'em out," "Give him goss," "No gouging," were heard on all sides. The ladies scrambled and scampered out, the actors mingled with the audience, the fat gentleman laughed louder than ever, Uncle Billy tussled and swore, but high above the laughing, cursing, and swearing, arose the effort of the rail-man. He had started off the boards on one side of the room, but having found a fresh spot he was raking away with all his might to the accompaniment of "*glorious! glorious!*"

Thus ended a theatrical performance in Mississippi. Our correspondent says that he dug his way out of the house and made the best speed he could to the tavern and to bed; but the scenes of the evening haunted him in his dreams, and several times he awoke with his hands clasped to his ears to shut out the dreadful raking of the "glorious" fellow with the fence-rail.

VAN AMBURGH & CO.'S MENAGERIE IN THE SWAMPS OF MISSISSIPPI—BEAUTIES OF THE SHOW BUSINESS IN THE "SUNNY SOUTH"²⁰

HYATT FROST, the well-known business manager of Van Amburgh & Co.'s extensive menagerie, gives the following vivid description of their adventures in the wilds of Mississippi, during the latter part of January.

*** After exhibiting at State Line Station, Miss., on the 27th ult., we shipped our tent and baggage-wagons on the cars, and doubling all our teams on cages, started at day-break for Centerville, thirty-five miles distant. After traveling about four miles through quagmire and quicksand, we arrived at a little stream called Dog River, so swollen with recent rains that it could not be forded. Here we halted a short time, but soon drove up the bank of the creek for two miles, when we determined to at least make an attempt to cross. The center-pole wagon, drawn by four horses, was started in first, but had no sooner reached the channel than every thing disappeared below the surface. In a moment they appeared again, and lodged against some trees, when a dozen men "leaped into the angry flood," and aided them in reaching the opposite shore. The remaining wagons were then taken across in much the same manner, the men swimming around the cages, and rendering all the assistance in their power, the animals meantime making the wilderness resound with the most unearthly yells. By half-

²⁰ *Spirit of the Times*, Saturday, March 19, 1859, p. 42.

past two o'clock in the afternoon every thing was safely over, when the men congratulated themselves that the worst was past.

After traveling about four miles further, we came to another river, which was also swum by every team, almost without a halt, and at sundown we found ourselves in a wilderness which it seemed "man never trod before," only six miles from where we had started at day-break, although we had traveled nearly double that distance. Here we camped, with a few bushels of corn and about three hundred pounds of fodder for seventy horses, contenting ourselves with some chicken soup thickened with a little corn meal. After this sumptuous repast the men lay down on their blankets to sleep, but a drenching rain soon drove them from their repose.

At daybreak, I started a man for Mobile to get a train of cars and some feed, as I had by this time determined to return to State Line, if possible. We harnessed the teams and retraced our steps, neither man nor beast having partaken of a morsel of breakfast. After upsetting cage after cage, and pulling horse after horse out of the quicksand, we again reached the second stream we had crossed, and found it a foot higher than on the day previous. But it was again swum, without a murmur or an accident. The first river was so much higher and the men and horses so fatigued that I deemed it imprudent to attempt to cross. We again halted, and sent back for twelve men and ten horses which had been left in the woods with two large cages so firmly mired, that, with the assistance of twenty-three hired negroes, they had only been moved four miles in a day and a half. When they reached us, we drove two miles further up for a better ford, but mired and upset so often that we were frequently compelled to haul the cages with men, as the horses could not stand at all in the quicksand.

We at length struck a better road, and the men, nearly starved, began to eat raw potatoes and bacon, which they roasted by thrusting into the fire on sticks. But after crossing the upper ford, and getting on the old State road once more, we soon reached the depot, where everything was done for us that could be by our landlord, Mr. McGuire. The men slept soundly that night, I assure you.

The following morning, twenty horses and forty men started for the woods again, determined to bring in the two large cages that day. Where the horses could not stand, they were hauled out by men, and where the men could not stand, they built bridges. By five o'clock in the evening, both were safely at the depot. In the mean time a train of cars had arrived with feed. Mr. Ferguson, with the aid of no small number of African friends, succeeded in getting everything on board the train, and by sundown we were *en route* for Mobile, singing

"We can't stay in the wilderness,
But two days, but two days;
We can't stay in the wilderness,
We're bound for Mobile."

The elephant had been sent across the country, and succeeded in swimming the rivers without any trouble, his keeper, Mr. Thomas, taking passage on his head, and allowing his horse to swim after him, with a long cord attached to his bridle. At one time the horse was swept away and lost, but four days afterward found and safely brought to this city.

THE ELEPHANT IN LA FAYETTE

By Johnson Hooper²¹

OUR county of Chambers has a very curiosity-loving population, and when the bills are stuck for a public execution of any sort, in any of our villages, no sort of weather can keep our people away. "Magicians' charm, and "Circuses" entrance them—but a Menagerie almost throws them into spasms of delight.

Some months ago, Raymond's fine collection of animals was shown in La Fayette, with the usual attraction of lion-tamers, male and female. On this feature of the exhibition, the public voice was loud, enthusiastic, and eloquent, for several days before the Menagerie arrived. When it came, we visited it, in company with our waggish old Irish friend, Tom Martin—the same who told the story of the "Double-Headed Snake."

The elephant was the great point of attraction, as usual. Many were the remarks elicited by his immense size and docility.

"I want his hide and frame for a corn crib," said a fellow from the Pan-Handle Beat.

"Save me his years for skearts to my old wagin saddle," remarked another.

"Good gracious!" ejaculated a sallow girl, with a dirty blue ribbon around a yellow neck, "was it *borned* with that ugly *snake thing* stuck to its nose?"

"It's got a'most the least *har* to as much *hide*, that I ever seed," quoth Jerry Brumbelow.

"Whar do they raise 'em?" asked some honest searcher after knowledge.

²¹ *The Widow Rugby's Husband, A Night at the Ugly Man's, and Other Tales* Alabama, Philadelphia, 1851, pp. 121-124. For note on Hooper, see p. 530, *infra*.

"Not here—not here in this country," replied Jim M'Gaffey, with a knowing look.

"Whar, then?"

"That animal," said Jim, who was very drunk, "that animal wasn't raised in the island of Ameriky; it come all the way from *Ireland*."

"Give us your hand, my friend," exclaimed old Tom Martin, with an ironical air; "give us your hand for the thrue word ye're tellin' the boys. Don't ye see the creatur's *fat*? Sure 'twas made for the *Bogs* of the ould counthry! This thing, though, is but a heifer, as ye may say. What would ye say if ye could see a giniwine *Irish Bull*? Tut!"

"*Satis! jam satis!*" soliloquized a corpulent lawyer, as he walked up; unconsciously latinizing the spirit of Tom Haines' remark on a similar occasion.

The group adjourned to the vicinity of the lion.

"Why didn't they shurr (shear) that critter's fore parts, as well as his hind ones?" asked some one.

"You see," said his keeper, "he's got a breast complaint, and we were afraid of increasing his cold."

"Well, by granny, I *did* notice he was *hoarse* when he hollered a while ago."

"Whar did *he* come from, Jim?" asked one of the crowd.

"From Ireland, too, be Jasus," said old Tom, taking the word out of Jim's mouth.

"Didn't he, M'Gaffey?"

"I judge he did," said Mac.

"I'll take my *corp'ral* of it," returned Martin; "the *grooves ov Blarney is full ov 'em!*"

Presently the crowd was ordered back, and Mr. and Mrs. Shaffer entered the cage with the lion, tiger, and other animals.

"That takes Billy's horns smooth off to his skull—don't it?" said Tom Hussey.

"Is it a *rail* woman in thar?" asked a skeptical dirt-eater.

"Why, you see," said Jim M'Gaffey, "it's a rail woman, but she's got great sperret. Some people, though, think these show people ain't regular human."

"No more they ain't," said old Tom.

"What air they, then?"

"*Airish* to be sure!"

"Ain't the Irish human!"

"Divil the taste!" responded old Tom, "*they're all subjects ov the Queen ov Great Britain.*"

"That's a fact," said Jim M'Gaffey; and the point was settled.

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(1862)
M1628.H33

He pointed to a sign,
"Twas nothing more or less—

Spoken.—"No trust at this bar." So as I had no money
I couldn't stand the press.

I next a courting went,
Upon a Sunday night;
I tried my best to be
Exceedingly polite;
I plead with Mary Ann,
My future life to bless—

Spoken.—She looked at me for a few minutes, and said
she would like to get married; but she was AFRAID
She couldn't stand the press.

So now I'll end my song;
In that you'll say I'm right;
If you'll call in again,
I'll sing some other night;
Our prices here are small,
They couldn't well be less—

Spoken.—So, whenever you can, give us a call; we'd
let you in for nothing, but times are so hard!
We couldn't stand the press.

An Original Burlesque Oration.

As delivered by Bob Hart.

FELLOW CONVICTS:—It is with feelings of great inclination that I disappear before you to-night, to express our indifference in regard to our own final refulgence, and why doe wee submit to this overwhelming dislocation? We all know, and so doe wee, that wee know wee knows, of course wee doe (*and why not?*) that's the way to talk it—if Henry Beecher does emancipate Jersey over to Wee-hauken, are wee to be dismembered from Coney Island and the Newark clam-beds?—(*and why not?*) Then, on the other hand, if George Law should run a ferry to Commu-

nipan, are wee to be disinteerd in our own endeavor? establish our rights in regard to Mrs. Winslow's soothing syrup?—and, again, my fellow dead beats, suppose they doe capture Commodore Nut, will that have a tendency to remove the blockade from Spuyten Devil Creek, and allow the population of the territory adjacent to its own circulation to issue treasury notes less than a thousand diameters in circumference to their own enlargement (*and why not?*)? No, fellow bummers, it is time for us to rise and strike at our own feelings, if wee expect to submit to the efforts of Radway's ready relief—renovating resolute—that's it, that's the point wee expect to carry before the house in our next congressional Legislative Assembly of the common council, as Lord Dundreary said in his great speech before the House of Commons at Washington; he said not that American citizens—American citizens—No, he said, and he was right too—Good evening.

Vanamburgh's Menagerie.

Banjo Solo, sung by L. Simmons.

Old Vanamburgh is the man that runs all these ere shows,
He goes into the lion's den and shows you all he knows,
He sticks his head in the lion's mouth and holds it there
a while.

Then he pulls it out again and turns around and smiles.

Chorus.—The elephant now moves round, the music begins to play,

Them boys around the monkeys' cage had better keep
away.

The first is the African polar bear, oft called the iceberg's daughter,

Has been known to eat six tons of ice and a bottle of soger water,

He wades in the river up to his knees, not fearing any harm,

You may growl and snarl all you please, but he don't care a darn.

Chorus, &c.

The hyena in the next cage, most wonderful to relate,
 Got awful hungry the other night and ate up his female
 mate;
 Don't go near his cage; he will hurt you, little boys,
 For when he's mad he wags his tail and makes an awful
 noise.

Chorus, &c.

The next is the anaconda boa-constrictor, called the anasa-
 brunity,
 He can eat up a toad or an elephant and is noted for his
 great longlity;
 He can swallow his head, crawl through himself, come
 out with great facility,
 And tie himself in a big bow-knot and wink with great
 agility.

Chorus, &c.

The monkey in the next cage is cuffing his little brother,
 He's not to blame for doing that, for he learned it of his
 mother;
 The skin of his face is drawn so tight, and covered all over
 with marks,
 And when he winks he's sure to gape, and when he gapes
 he — winks.

Chorus, &c.

The last is the eagle, awful bird from the highest moun-
 tain tops,
 Has been known to eat up little birds, and here his history
 stops;
 The performance can't go on, there is too much noise and
 confusion,
 If the ladies give them monkeys' fruit it will injure their
 constitution.

Chorus, &c.

Private Maguire.

Pathetic Ballad. Original by Bob Hart.

Och! it is nate to be captain or colonel,
 Divil a bit would I want to be higher;
 But to rust as a private I think's an infernal
 Predicament surely, says Private Maguire.

They can go sparkin' and playin' at billiards,
 With money to spend for their slightest desire,
 Loafin' and atin' and dhrinkin' at Williard's,
 While we're on the pickets, says Private Maguire.

Livin' in clover, they think it's a trifle
 To stand out all night in the rain and the mire,
 And a rebel hard by with a villainous rifle,
 Jist ready to pop ye, says Private Maguire.

Faith, now, it's not that I'm either complainin';
 I'm spilin' to meet ye, Jeff Davis, Esquire!
 Ye blag-gard!—it's only I'm weary of thrainin',
 And thrainin', and thrainin', says Private Maguire.

O Lord, for a row!—but, Maguire, be aisy,
 Keep yourself sweet for the enemy's fire:
 McClellan's the chap that shortly will plaze ye,
 Be the holy St. Patrick! says Private Maguire.

And, lad, if ye're hit (O, bedad, that infernal
 Jimmy O'Down would make up to Maria!)
 Whether ye're captain, or major, or colonel,
 Ye'll die with the best, then! says Private Maguire.

Father Macshane.

Old father Macshane he was holy and fat,
 Sing farallal, &c.
 He sprinkled my forehead, and christened me Pat,
 Sing farallal, &c.

Selected Songs Sung at Harvard College

From 1862 to 1866

William Allen Hayes, privately printed
46 MENAGERIE SONG.

"The sun is very hot," said she; "lend me part of your umbrella:

My name is Phillissy Dinah, and I peddles sasparilla."

Oh, when George Henry heard this news, which couldn't have been wuss,

His hair it turned quite yellow, and he tumbled off the 'bus.

They bathed his head with vinegar, to bring him up to time;

And now he drives a mule-team on the Denver-City line.

MENAGERIE SONG.



AN AMBURG is the man that goes with all the shows;

He goes into the lions' den, and shows you all he knows.

He sticks his head in the lion's mouth, and keeps it there awhile;

And, when he takes it out again, he greets you with a smile.

Chorus. — For the elephant now goes round;

The band begins to play:

Those boys around the monkey's cage,

They'd better keep away.

Cambridge (1867)

MENAGERIE SONG.

47

This is the Artic polar bear, oft called the iceberg's daughter:

Been known to eat three tubs of ice, then call for soda-water;

She wades in the water up to her knees, not fearing any harm;

You may growl and grumble as much as you please, but she don't care a darn.

Next comes baboon Emmeline, catching flies and scratching her head;

Weeping and wailing all the day, because her husband's dead:

Poor weeping, wailing water-lily, of all her friends bereft;

That monkey is thumbing his nose at her, with his right paw over his left.

Next comes the anaconda-bo-a-constrictor, called the anaconda for brevity:

He can swallow an elephant as well as a toad, and is noted for his great longevity;

Can swallow himself, crawl through himself, come out with great facility,

Tie himself into a bow-knot, snap his tail, and wink with great agility.

That hyena in the next cage, most wonderful to relate,
Got awful hungry the other night, and ate up his female mate.

Now, don't go near his cage : he'll hurt you, little boys ;
For, when he's mad, he'll growl and bite, and make a
horrible noise.

Next comes the condor, an awful bird, from the highest
mountain-tops :

Been known to eat up little boys, and then to smack his
chops.

This performance can't go on ; there's too much noise
and confusion :

Those ladies giving those monkeys nuts will injure their
constitution.

THE HUNT.



ON the fifth day of March, in the year '53,

We had a recreation in our countrie :

Just four and twenty gentlemen came down
from Bally-Box

On four and twenty horses, in search of a fox.

Chorus.

Tally-ho ! hark-away !

Tallo-ho ! hark-away !

Tally-ho ! hark-away, my boys !

Away, hark-away !

We met on Scraggy Mountain, at Barney Bochin's inn,
Where every man his whiskey took, which shivered in
his skin.

At six o'clock, old Billy's horn resounded in our ears ;
And every man his saddle took, 'mid four and twenty
cheers.

Chorus.

When Reynard was started, he took right for the hollow,
Where none but the huntsman and bloody nags dare
follow.

Till twelve o'clock he led the pack, 'mid hedge and
ditch sublime,

But lost his way in Dolly's brae for purely loss of time.

Chorus.

When Mr. Fox was caught at last, he laid him down to
die ;

And, while the dogs were kept at bay, he muttered, with
a sigh,

To him who cleared the five-barred gate, and first dis-
mounted here,

"I leave my tail and coat of mail for four and twenty
year."

Chorus.

HAMLET.



HERO'S life I sing ;

His story shall my pen mark :

He was not the king,

But Hamlet, Prince of Denmark.

GAYLORD BROS.
MAKERS
SYRACUSE, - N.Y.
PAT. JAN. 21, 1908

THE
OLD CLOWN'S

"W-H-O-A JANUARY"

SONGSTER.

Jammed full of the very tallest kind of Comic Songs—just the things
for the Arena, the Free and Easy, and the Jovial Social Circle.

In addition to a choice array of capital song-words, this book

contains eight very choice songs,

Set to Music Expressly for this Work :

SHABBY GENTEEL,

ROYAL WILD BEAST SHOW.

THOSE TASSELS ON THE BOOTS,

PULLING HARD AGAINST THE STREAM,

THE PERRIWINKLE MAN,

THE BRIGHTON DONKEY RACES.

THE IRISH MULETEER,

NEW-YORK:
ROBERT M. DE WITT, PUBLISHER,
NO. 33 ROSE STREET.

(Between Duane and Frankfort Streets.)

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at Washington.

De Witt's Song and Joke Books.

These Song Books contain all the New Songs of the day, adapted to well known and popular
tunes, and will be found to be a valuable acquisition to the stock of dealers.
Each Book contains sixty-four pages, printed on fine white paper, and enclosed in a hand-
some cover, with an illustrative engraving, and sold at the remarkably low price of TEN CENTS.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>No. 1. Teddy Regan Songster.
2. Fat Molloy Songster.
3. Edmund O'Brien Songster.
4. Weaving of the Green Songster.
5. Handy Andy's Wake Songster.
6. Paddy's Own Dime Book.
7. Jolly Irishman's Songster.
8. Rocky Road to Dublin Songster.
9. Noah O'Neill Songster.
10. Annie Laurie Melodist.
11. Gypsy's Warning Songster.
12. Swinging in the Lane Songster.
13. Pretty Little Sarah Songster.
14. Paddy Your Own Canoe Songster.
15. Goose Hangs High Songster.
16. Vivid Compagnie Songster.
17. Naughty Old Songster.
18. Waiting for a Broadway Stago Songster.
19. Big Sunflower Songster.
20. Charley Vivian's Songster.
21. Humpty Dumpty Songster.
22. Black Crook Songster.
23. Tilt Skirt Songster.
24. Fred Shaw's Songster.
25. Fred Shaw's American Diadem.
26. Who's Been Here Since I've Been Gone?
27. The Fellow That Looks Like Me Songster.
28. J. S. Barry's Flying Trippers Songster.
29. J. S. Barry's American Comic Melodist.
30. Bobby Newcomb's Songster.
31. Bryant's Essence of Old Virginia.
32. Bryant's Power of Music.
33. Bryant's Song from Dixie's Land.
34. Hooley's New Songster.
35. Hooley's High Dandy Songster.
36. MacFie's Banjo.
37. MacFie's Bunt Cork Lyrics.
38. MacFie's Bunt Cork Melodist, No. 1.
39. Stars and Stripes Songster, No. 1.
40. Stars and Stripes Songster, No. 2.
41. Stars and Stripes Songster, No. 3.
42. Grant Campaign Songster.
43. Grant and Cuff Republican Songster.
44. Napoleon; or, The Red, White and Blue.
45. New Dime American Joker.
46. MacFie's Bunt Cork Book.
47. Old Abe's Joker.
48. Byron Christy's Bunt Cork Comic.
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67. Great Linard Songster.
68. Yelochede Songster.
69. Daisy Songster.
70. Wanda Deane Songster.
71. We Parted by the River Side Songster.
72. Little Thompson Songster.
73. Father Mathew Songster.
74. That's the Style for Me Songster.
75. Sweet Genevieve Songster.
76. Love Among the Roses Songster.
77. Little Maggie May Songster.
78. Chapman Sisters Songster.
79. Dan Bryant's Shoo Fly Songster.
80. Lotie's Five Fly Songster.
81. Gus Williams' Big Nose Songster.
82. Pauline M. Khan Songster.
83. Won't Go Home Till Morning Songster.
84. Pleasant Fellow's Diet Songster.
85. Joe Emmert's Diet Songster.
86. Teddy Regan Swarrie Songster.
87. Blazing of the Moon Songster.
88. Slap Bang Songster.
89. Yankee Robinson's Amazon Songster.
90. My Father's South Carolina Songster.
91. Beautiful Bella Songster.
92. Rovin' Irish Boy Songster.
93. How is that for a Boy Songster.
94. Brother of a Boy Songster.
95. Alice Dunning Songster.
96. The Clown's Ching Chong Songster.
97. Kelly & Leon's Ching Chong Songster.
98. Ed Smith's Russell's Songster.
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For sale by all Dealers, or sent post paid to any address on re-
ceipt of the price, TEN CENTS.

R. M. DE WITT, Publisher,
33 Rose St., N.
Between Duane and Frankfort Sts.,

THE ROYAL WILD BEAST SHOW.

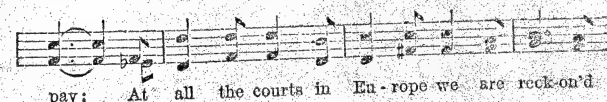
By ALFRED LEE.



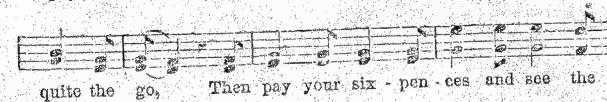
Come, stand a-side, good peo-ple all, and hear what I've to



say: But let the lit-tle dears come up, what's go-ing for to

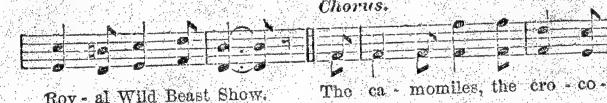


pay; At all the courts in Eu-rope we are reck-on'd



quite the go, Then pay your six-pen-ces and see the

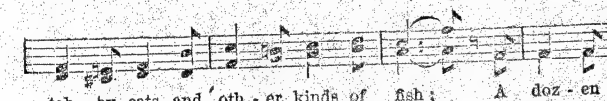
Chorus.



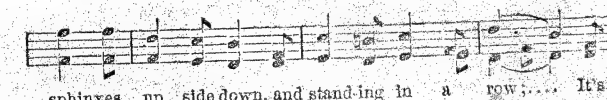
Roy-al Wild Beast Show. The ca-momiles, the cro-co-



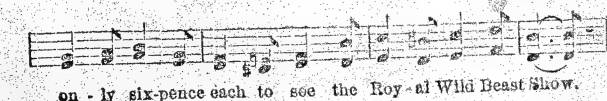
diles, and all that you could wish; The rice and rats, and



tab-by cats, and oth-er kinds of fish; A doz-en



sphinxes up side down, and stand-ing in a row; It's



on-ly six-pence each to see the Roy-al Wild Beast Show.

(1)

THE ROYAL WILD BEAST SHOW.—[CONCLUDED.]

The first one is the kangaroo, you'll know him by his hump;
The next's the hippopotamus, you ought to see him jump;
The third's the alligator and he's such a one to crow,
He wakes us every morning in the Royal Wild Beast Show.
The camomiles, &c.

That pretty thing's the oozley bird, the other one's his aunt,
The third we call the pelican, the next the pelican;
The other one's the solon goose—you mustn't call out to!
Or you will hurt his feelings in the Royal Wild Beast Show.
The camomiles, &c.

The donkey in the corner with the tiger on his arm,
Comes from Assyria, where once his father kept a farm;
That billy-goat that's dress'd in pink and walking rather slow,
Is very hornimental in a Royal Wild Beast Show.
The camomiles, &c.

The tortoise, famous for his speed, unequal'd by a horse;
The parrot, too, who talks in polly-syllables, of course;
The raging elephants that roar when stormy winds do blow,
Are also represented in the Royal Wild Beast Show.
The camomiles, &c.

The next one is a mighty ape, indeed, I tell you true,
It's only natural he should "go walking in the Zoo;"
Our stock of monkeys, you'll observe, at present is but low—
They are so plentiful outside the Royal Wild Beast Show.
The camomiles, &c.

The last's the boa constrictor, who eats all he finds about—
Why, who's been fool enough to let the nasty crittur out?
He's somewhere underneath the chairs, hi! mind your legs,
hullo!
He's very quick in clearing out the Royal Wild Beast Show.
The camomiles, &c.

(2)

THE
BEAUTY OF THE BLONDES'
SONGSTER.

CONTAINING ABOUT

200 CHOICE SONGS.

Of which

TWENTY ARE SET TO MUSIC

EXPRESSLY FOR THIS WORK.

AS FOLLOWS:

AMERICAN DRINKS,	KITTY BELL,
B. R. A. G.,	LOOK BEFORE LEAPING,
CLEMINTINA,	LONDON SOCIETY,
THE CRICKETERS,	ROYAL WILD BEAST SHOW,
DON'T YOU RUN AWAY,	SHOW ME THE GIRL,
GIRL OF THE PERIOD,	STROLLING IN THE BURLING-
HERE STANDS A YOUNG MAN,	TON,
HE'S JUST THE MAN THAT	THERE'S NOTHING SUCCEEDS
WOULD,	LIKE SUCCESS,
IT DON'T SUIT CHARLEY BA-	WAX WORK SHOW,
KER,	RIDING IN THE ROW,
IT'S NICE TO BE A FATHER,	UP IN THE MONUMENT.

NEW-YORK:

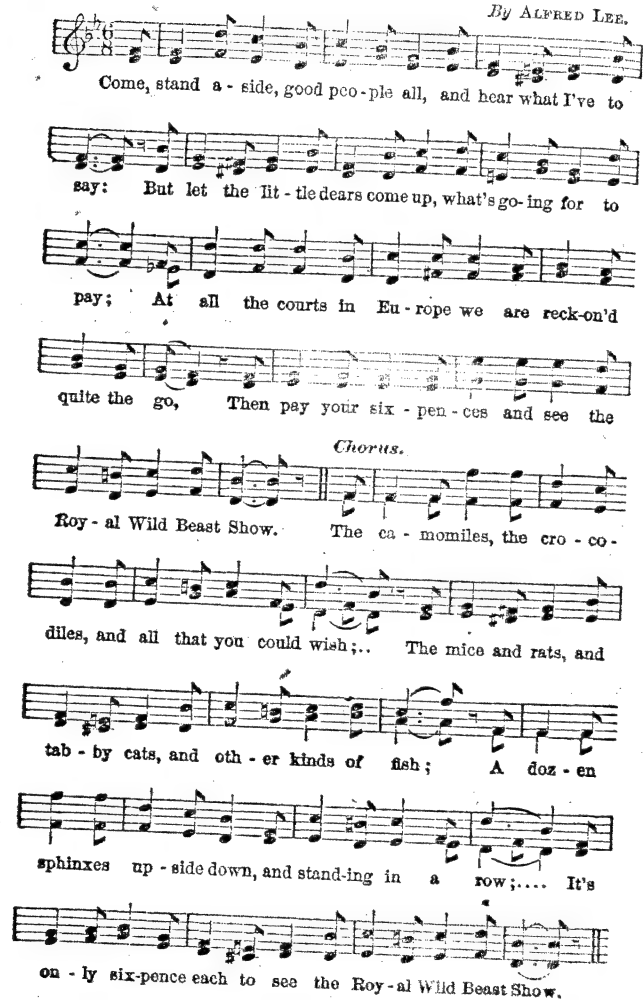
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By ALFRED LEE.



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Chorus.
Roy - al Wild Beast Show. The ca - momiles, the cro - co -
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tab - by cats, and oth - er kinds of fish; A doz - en
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bullo!
He's very quick in clearing out the Royal Wild Beast Show.
The camomiles, &c.

(2)

THE WAX-WORK SHOW.

By ALFRED LIFE.

You haven't seen the wax-work show? then pay your money down, I

wouldn't have you miss a sight like this for half a crown! It's

worth the mon-ey just to hear the gen-tle-man ex-plain, And,

if you're not pleased, ask us for your mon-ey back a-gain. Com-

mencing with our English queens, the first is good Jane Shore, The

next one is "fair Ro-samond," and her be-hind the door Is

La-dy Jane Grey, in the tower, a-read-ing by a lamp,—In-

vent-or of the famed Queen's head, or pen-ny postage-stamp.

Spoken—Hi! hi! step inside—

Chorus.

Then strike the gong, and beat the drum, and blow the Ger-man

(1)

THE WAX-WORK SHOW.—[CONCLUDED.]

band, The wax-work ex-hi-bi-tion is the glo-ry of the

land; As large as life, and twice as good, then step in-side, and

see The kings and queens a-dwelling like a hap-py fam-i-ly.

The next is Charles James Fox, who blew up parliament one day—
Guy's Hospital was built upon the spot;—
Next Joan of Nash's Ark, an English ship of prime,
It's from a photograph by Master Thomas, a little prime,
The other's Mary, Queen of Scots, or else it's John Bright,
We're not sure which, our figures somehow mixed up, one night;
The next's a famous pugilist, his name is Jack, I think,
Then Shakespeare, author of the tragedy of Box and Cox.

Spoken—Step up, they're all alive! alive!—*Chorus*, as before.

The merry monarch, Charles the First, you'll notice, dressed in red,
Folks made fun of him all his life, and then took off his head.
The kind, good Duke of Gloster, who became old Nick the three,
He killed two princes, but he loved his mother, don't you see?
Wat Tyler, that's the man who first invented "who's your hatter,"
King John the Chartist, who once signed a something, but no matter;
Next, King Canute and Anne of Clèves, preparing to elope,
And Washington, who first invented washing-days and soap.—*Chorus*.

Spoken—This way to the chamber of horrors—who'll have two pen-
n'orth of horror? hi! hi!

Our room of horrors if you'd see, please twopence extra pay,
But if your nerves ain't very strong you'd better keep away;
First, that repulsive little boy is Master Johnny Green—
He put the kitten in the well, and stole a crinoline;
His mother thrashed him for the deed, and after her attacks
We managed to secure a neat impression in the *whacks*.
That hideous monster, next to him, was taken during life,
He asked a friend to dine—without permission of his wife.—*Chorus*.

The next is Mr. Peabody, most terrible of men,
Then cruel Guillotine, who first invented Gillott's pen;
Our room of horrors would not be at all complete, you'll say,
Without the author of the last absurd sensation play;
This strange, infernal-like machine (*crimes out too or three guns, fast-
ened together*) oft frightens folks to fits,
And when it goes off, blows you into twenty million bits: [go on!]
You'd like to see it work, perhaps—you wouldn't? well, then, go!
And send your friends to patronize the famous wax-work show.—*Chorus*.

(2)



Gaylord Bros.
Makers
Syracuse, N. Y.

83294
YANKEE ROBINSON'S
BEAUTIFUL AMAZON
SONGSTER.

FAYETTE LODAWICK ROBINSON.

This live showman—more properly known as "Yankee Robinson"—is a direct lineal descendant of Dr. Robinson, the eminent divine who came to this country in the "May Flower." He was born near Avon, Mineral Springs, Livingston county, N. Y., May 2d, 1818. Commenced his career in the show business with Old Sickle's show.

He made his first appearance on any stage at a school exhibition in his native town, as Jonathan Doolittle, in the play of "A Yankee in England." In 1836 he went to Medina, Mich., built a shop, and carried on the business of shoemaking with great encouragement. At the end of a year he returned home and was married, and in a few months after, his wife died. We next find him on a traveling tour, for a few months, bringing up at Danville, N. Y., where he again embarked extensively in the shoe trade, when he married again.

In December following he found himself in St. Louis, Mo., where he made his first appearance in traveling as "Yankee Robinson." He went through Illinois and Wisconsin. Part of the time in connection with Jumbo and Luther at St. Louis.

He organized a Room show at Eaton, Preble county, Ohio. His wife, who assisted, afterward made her mark in general chambermaids and particularly Yankee gals. He traveled under the title of the "Robinson Family," playing farces, singing quartettes, comic songs, etc. He made his mark in localizing Yankee stories, in which he has no equal. Finding his business increasing, he then made a tent with his own hands, at Quincy, Illinois, and started May 2d, 1851. His soon disbanded, losing all he had accumulated, and several thousand dollars besides. The following winter he built another tent at Rock Island, Illinois, and started the "Robinson Athenaeum," playing the "Drunkard," and like pieces. He finally selected Indianapolis as headquarters playing in winter and travelling with a canvas in the summer. He has been extensively engaged since in circuses and animal shows. While in Columbia, S. C., in 1853, his wife died, and for a while our hero was nearly broken up; but the indomitable spirit broke forth anew, and success was gained for a few years. He made his first appearance as a "star," at Grover's Theatre, Washington, D. C., and last at Crosby's Opera House, Chicago, when his success was beyond any similar attraction. He has now the largest show in America.

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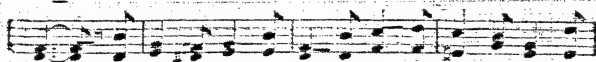
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THE ROYAL WILD BEAST SHOW.

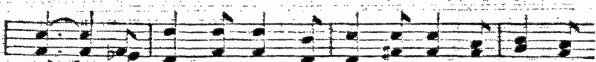
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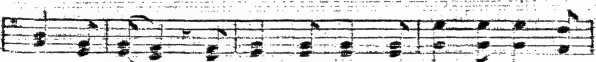
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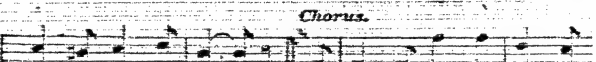
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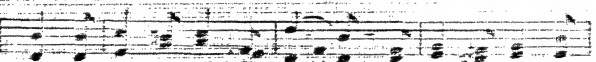
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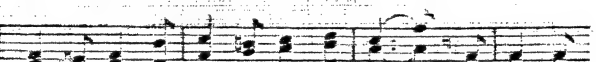
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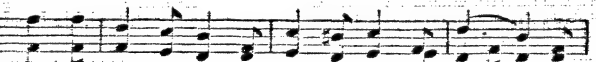
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(2)

✓
THE
AMERICAN COLLEGE
SONGSTER

A COLLECTION OF

SONGS, GLEES, AND MELODIES.

SUNG BY

AMERICAN STUDENTS;

CONTAINING ALSO

Popular American, English, Irish and German
Songs, Negro Melodies, Etc.,

COMPILED

FOR THE USE OF STUDENTS AND LOVERS OF
STUDENT MUSIC GENERALLY.

BY
S. C. ANDREWS,
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN.

SHEEHAN & CO.,
BOOKSELLERS AND PUBLISHERS,

UNIVERSITY PLACE,
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN.
1876.

MY OLD KENTUCKY HOME, GOOD-NIGHT.

BY S. C. FOSTER.

The sun shines bright in the old Kentucky Home,
 'Tis summer, the darkies are gay,
 The corn top's ripe and the meadow's in the bloom,
 While the birds make music all the day.
 The young folks roll on the little cabin floor,
 All merry, all happy and bright;
 By'n bye Hard Times comes knocking at the door,
 Then my old Kentucky Home, good-night!

CHORUS.

Weep no more, my lady,
 Oh! weep no more to-day!
 We will sing one song for the old Kentucky Home,
 For the old Kentucky Home, far away.

They hunt no more for the possum and the coon,
 On the meadow, the hill and the shore,
 They sing no more by the glimmer of the moon.
 On the bench by the old cabin door,
 The day goes by like a shadow o'er the heart,
 With sorrow when all was delight;
 The time has come when the darkies have to part,
 Then my old Kentucky Home, good-night!

COME HOME, FATHER.

BY HENRY CLAY WORK.

Father, dear father, come home with me now,
 The clock in the steeple strikes one;
 You said you were coming right home from the shop,
 As soon as your day's work was done;
 Our fire has gone out, our house is all dark,
 And mother's been watching since tea,
 With poor brother Benny so sick in her arms,
 And no one to help her but me.
 Come home! come home! come home!
 Please father, dear father, come home!

CHORUS.

Hear the sweet voice of the child,
 Which the night-winds repeat as they roam!
 Oh! who could resist this most plaintive of prayers?
 Please father, dear father, come home!

Father, dear father, come home with me now,
 The clock in the steeple strikes two;
 The night has grown colder, and Benny is worse:
 But he has been calling for you;
 Indeed he is worse, ma says he will die—
 Perhaps before morning shall dawn,
 And this is the message she sent me to bring:
 Come quickly, or he will be gone!
 Come home! come home! come home!
 Please father, dear father, come home!

Father, dear father, come home with me now.
 The clock in the steeple strikes three;
 The house is so lonely, the hours are so long
 For poor weeping mother and me!
 Yes, we are alone; for Benny is dead,
 And gone with the angels of light.
 And these were the very last words that he said:
 I want to kiss papa good-night.
 Come home! come home! come home!
 Please father, dear father, come home!

THE ROYAL WILD BEAST SHOW.

BY ALFRED LEE.

Come, stand aside, good people all, and hear what I've
 to say:
 But let the little deers come up, what's going for to pay;
 At all the courts in Europe we are reckon'd quite the go,
 Then pay your sixpences and see the Royal Wild Beast
 Show.

CHORUS.

The camomiles, the crocodiles, and all that you could wish,
 The mice and rats, and tabby cats, and other kinds of fish,
 A dozen sphinxes up side down, and standing in a row;
 It's only sixpence each to see the Royal Wild Beast Show.

The first one is the kangaroo, you'll know him by his
 hump;
 The next's the hippopotamus, you ought to see him
 jump;
 The third's the alligator and he's such a one to crow.
 He wakes us every morning in the Royal Wild Beast
 Show.

That pretty thing's the oozley bird, the other one's his
aunt,
The third we call the pelican, the next the pelican;
The other one's the solon goose—you musn't call out bo!
Or you will hurt his feelings in the Royal Wild Beast
Show.

The donkey in the corner with the tiger on his arm,
Comes from Assyria, where once his father kept a farm;
That billy-goat that's dress'd in pink and walking rather
slow,

Is very hornimental in a Royal Wild Beast Show.

The tortoise, famous for his speed, unequal'd by a horse;
The parrot, too, who talks in *polly*-syllables, of course;
The raging elephants that roar when stormy winds do
blow,

Are also represented in the Royal Wild Beast Show.

The next one is a mighty ape, indeed I tell you true.
It's only natural he should "go walking in the zoo;"
The *stuck* of monkeys, you'll observe, at present is but
low—

They are so plentiful outside the Royal Wild Beast Show.

The last's the boa constrictor, who eats all he finds
about—

Why, who's been fool enough to let the nasty crittur out?
He's somewhere underneath the chairs, hi! mind your
hullo!

He's very quick in clearing out the Royal Wild Beast
Show.

THE OLD CABIN HOME.

BY S. C. FOSTER.

I am going far away,
Far away, to leave you now,
To the Mississippi river I am going;
I will take my old banjo,
And I'll sing this little song—
Away down in my Old Cabin Home.

CHORUS.

Here is my Old Cabin Home,
Here is my sister and my brother,
Here lies my wife, the joy of my life,
And my child in the grave with its mother.

I am going to leave this land,
With this our darkey band,
To travel all this wide world o'er;
And when I get tired
I will settle down to rest,
Away down in my Old Cabin Home.

When old age comes on,
And my hair is turning gray,
I will hang up the banjo all alone:
I'll sit down by the fire
And I'll pass the time away,
Away down in my Old Cabin Home.

'Tis there where I roam,
Away down on the old farm,
Where all the darkeys am free;
Oh! merrily sound the banjo,
For the white folks round the room.
Away down in my Old Cabin Home.

LOVE AMONG THE ROSES.

BY W. H. DELEHANTY.

It was on one Summer's evening,
In the merry month of June;
I beheld a damsel sitting
'Mid flowers' sweet perfume.
She had a novel, reading,
Just as I was passing by.
And as she turned another page,
I saw the brightest eye;
A bewitching smile was on her face,
As charming as the posies;
I felt the smart of Cupid's dart;
'Twas love among the roses.

CHORUS.

Now, I hate to tell but then I must;
Within her heart I place my trust;
Se. was sitting in the garden,
Where the little butterfly reposes;
And how we met, I'll ne'er forget,
'Twas love among the roses.

...id, ~~as~~ he has ...
 with reality, ... to survive. Yet in his folklore ...
 to find an outlet for his frustrations and aggressive feelings, there ...
 easing ~~for~~ in a momentary sense the traumatic aspects of living in a
 subordinate position in white society. Explain how this is so, both
 with regard to rural and urban Negro folklore, based on class discussion
 and your readings in Keil, ~~and~~ Dorson, and Abrahams. (25)

With reference to the discussion of proverb, riddle, and ^{belief} ~~myth~~, explain how
 folklore may act as a control device. *What other folkloric forms have*

*emerged in your study, class experience, or long
 experience with as a control device? How? (your
 experience with myth, legend, song, rhyme, etc.)*

The Crisis: Negro Art Quarterly from 1925

4 reviews, class Sept (1882) 64 pp.
~~The Von Anstalt~~

Tony Sutton, King Old African Songster
Chindahl, A King of the Cane in America, Capton
1821-1865, 1872.

SHORT SKETCHES OF BIBLE HISTORY

composed entirely. Pat you mustn't look too long. Boy, turn the crank. A story is told of an Irishman who had been mining with very little success in California and to whom a Yankee had sold a "Peep Show" with which he had been raking in the shekels to a great extent for some time previous. The first arrangement was that the vendor should accompany the Irishman and do the lecturing part of the show at so much a week; but at the end of the first week Pat thought he had mastered the set speeches which the Yankee invariably used sufficiently to dispense with his services and by doing the talking himself could save about twenty dollars a week. He accordingly started out with only a small boy to turn the crank, and had no sooner put up the Peep Box than a big six-foot ten-inch nimer presented himself and forked out the fifty cents for a peep at the panorama. "Now," says Pat, "Ye just put your eye against the hole and keep it there until you hear me say, 'boy turn the crank,' and then look what you'll see. You're ready, are you?" "Yes." "Then boy turn the crank and there you see the Garden of Eden, the garden itself can easily be distinguished by the beautiful flowers you see all around and the little birds singing on the branches of the trees and all as tame as barn-door chickens. That's Eve over there, the beautiful naked woman with a fig-leaf over twot; and the fine looking young man standing beside her feeling her bubbies that's Adam. All he's got on, too, is a fig-leaf, and that ain't big enough to hide damned old dingus, for you see the head and neck of it hang down perceptibly, while his balls are hould his jaw and not say another word. So I should advise you

exposed entirely. But you mustn't look too long. Boy, turn the crank. And that shows you Daniel in the lions' den. There's no use pointing Dan out, because he's the only man there, nor the lion, that big ferocious baste you see in the corner snapping and grabbing all the time at the prophet's bare arse; but there's one there that can't be pointed out, for neither you nor I nor any one else can see him, and that's the angel of the Lord who stands by unbeknown'st to them all and hinders the lion each bite he makes. But the prophet, you see, feels that the angel is there, though he can't see him, and that's why he turns his arse to the lion with scornful indifference. So much for having faith in the Lord. Boy, turn the crank.

"Now you have the third scene. That's the deluge, when, as the good book says, 'the waters covered the whole face of the earth, and the Ark of Noah floated about upon the waters. There's the ark on the great waste of water, as you will notice, and not a single sign of land as far as the eye can reach. You see the three men sitting on deck enjoying the beautiful sunset and their evening cigar, that's Noah and his two sons, Shem and Japhet. You can't see Ham for he's down in the hold shoveling shit from the animal's quarters, and it's all the balck son-of-a-bitch is good for anyway. Boy, turn the crank.

"And here you see Balaam on his way to curse the children of Israel. But the children of Israel, you know, are the chosen people of God, so when Balaam is on his way he is stopped by an angel, who warns him to go back at once and that he'd be wise to hold his jaw and not say another word. 'So I should judge from

the smell,' says the angel, 'and you ought to be ashamed to behave so before the angel of the Lord,' on which it disappeared and Balaam turned back overwhelmed with the rebuke. Boy, turn the crank.

"And this gives the fifth scene -- Lot and his two daughters. You'll observe there's only one of the girls there, the other is waiting outside the cave while the ould man puts the blocks to her sister. It's not the right thing to do, I know, being contrary to the laws og God and man, but they seem to be liking it anyway, and maybe we shouldn't be too hard on them as they all think they're the only ones left on the face of the earth, and, that it's their duty to do all they can to re-people it; and, besides that, I'm thinking the morals of none of them is the best, for you know they had been living for years in Sodom, and Sodom, we know, was the worst place for wild fucking of all descriptions that's mentioned in the bible (barring Chicago). Boy, turn the crank.

"Now this gives us another fucking scene, leastways it 'is not exactly a fucking scene, though it came near being one. It shows you Joseph and Potiphar's wife. Now Mrs. Potiphar you'll know was the most beautiful woman at the court of Pharoah, but she was an arrant whore and had set her heart on having a piece from Joseph, who was a comely lad in the full vigor of youth. But then, you see, Joseph was a high-principled young fellow and he tells Mrs. Potiphar that he never could reconcile it with his conscience to make so free with his master's wife, for she had just been asking him to go upstairs and have one of them things, but no,

he would rather risk being sent to a loathsome dungeon than accede to her solicitations, which shows the difference between him and you, you son-of-a-bitch, who would give up your last five dollar piece to have a rag at the damndest old Chinese whore that ever came prowling about the diggings."

"Who are you calling a son-of-a-bitch?" asks the man at the peep-hole, "I'm calling you a son-of-a-bitch," says Pat, and with that the audience jumps up and lets Pat have one under the ear, and Pat returns on the other's nose, and there they grapple and fall over carrying the Peep Show with them and smashing it all to pieces, and in less than two minutes we have them both rolling about in the mud, chewing each other's ears and noses to their hearts' content.

From The Stag Party, anonymous publication, ca. 1890, no page numbers listed (about two-thirds through the book).

"This hanamile, gents, is the laughing hyena; he's very strange, he eats only once a year, fucks only once every six years, and yet --" when there came a voice from the crowd.

"Then what the hell 'as he got to laugh at?"

Context is a story telling session on board a shipload of modern_day pirates.

The volume is a humorous fantasy: a mixture of humorous and impossible adventure with extensive -- and almost as impossible -- sexual activity.

Item is from P. 48. Volume consists of 52 single-spaced, mimeographed pages.

Format of title page:

THE CRUISE
of
THE NEW DECAMERON

Privately issued for C. Nile Dix
and his Friends.

Boston

MCMXX

Copy in the Institute For Sex Research, Bloomington, Indiana

Capt. Billy's Whiz Bang, Winter Annual, 1921-22.

Vol. III, No. 26 (October 5, 1921, p. 32), pub. by W.K. Fosett (sp?),
Robbinsdale, Minnesota

Nonsense, Larry

The next picture, ladies and gentlemen, is that of the Rocky Mountain goat. You can't get this goat's goat because he leaps from precipice to precipice and back to crag again. And every time he leaps he grunts and every time he grunts he leaps.

-- Turn the crank, Larry. The next picture is that of the laughing hyena which is the species of animal life that made the wild cat wild. The laughing hyena eats only once a week and drinks once a year, so I don't see whyinél he laughs so much.

-- Turn the crank, Larry.

Capt. Billy's Whiz Bang, Vol. III, No. 26 (October 5, 1921), p. 121.

Uall her duck~~ies~~, if you please
And she blushes and she signs;
Say she's 'chic' and straytiting (?)
(She's) wafted into sunny skies
Call her birdie and she's glad
Call her chicken and she's gay
Say she's just a hen, and then
something warm will be to pay.

"Midnight On the Ocean," p. 111 of ~~Whiz Bang~~ Capt. Billy's Whiz Bang,
Winter Annual - fifth series, 1925-1926, Oct. 1925, Vol. Vii, No. 79.

Larry, Turn The Crank

Several years ago Professor Simpson was traveling throughout the country giving lectures, aided by stereopticon pictures, to the inhabitants of small rural districts. With him was an Irishman whose name was Larry. Larry worked the picture machine. Every time that the professor was through lecturing on one picture, he would say, "Larry, turn the crank," and immediately the Irishman would throw another picture upon the screen for the professor to talk about. The pictures were of famous statuary and paintings and for the most part of various wild animals.

One evening the professor was billed to lecture in a small town in Ohio, when he was suddenly taken ill and unable to leave his bed, just a short time before he was to begin his lecture. He sent for his assistant and said to him, "Larry, I am very sick and cannot move out of bed and I must not disappoint those people tonight. You have heard me give the lecture many times, and surely you can go down to the town hall and give them some kind of a talk, for we need the money."

"Rest aisy," says Larry: "Shure I have heard you give that lectur' so many times I know it be heart, leave it to me. I'll give them some kind of spiel." Then Larry left for the town hall; but before leaving he had a few drinks and consequently he was in a decidedly merry mood by the time that he reached the hall. Now Larry had burlesqued the professor's lecture and used to give his version of it to his cronies when he had a few drinks too many; so on this occasion instead of giving the lecture as the professor did he relapsed into his parody.

Standing beside his stereopticon machine, he addressed the audience as follows:

Ladies and gentlemen: owing to the absense of Professor Simpson, who is very ill, and with your kind permission, I'll endeavor to give the lecture maself. I'll start off first by saying Larry, turn the crank. The professor's favorite expression when he wished a new picture thrown upon the screen.

The first picture, ladies and gentlemen, I will show is the pictur' of the Three Graces, Faith, Hope and Charity. Get on to the tits of Hope (stop your laughing there you boys in the front row, these are not common whores) and what do you think of the ass on Grace; but I tell you confidently gentlemen; Charity is the best screwing. Larry/ turn the crank.

Next picture, ladies and gentlemen; is a picture of the Wild Cat. Now the difference between a wild cat and a tame one, is that the wild cat has no touch hole, t erefore he can't shit, and that is what makes him wild. Larry turn the crank.

Next picture ladies and gentlemen, is the picture of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. You see Adam and Eve with all the foliage and leaves around them and at first sight it seems as if they had nothing on at all; but if you will look very closely ladies, you will see that Adam has a hard-on. Larry turn the crank.

Next picture ladies and gentlemen, is the picture of the Ostrich. He is a native of the North Pole. He has a havit when being pursued, of sticking his beak in the sand and whistling the German National Hymn thhrough his touch-hole; for what reason, goodness only knows. Larry turn the crank.

Next picture ladies and gentlemen, is a picture of the Zebra. A native of the middle of Asia. He has stripes around his whole body from the tip of his nose to the end of his tail. The stripes are so tight that every time he winks, he jerks himself off. The little boys of the desert have a habit of throwing sand in his eyes, to see him in the act of masturbation. Larry, turn the crank.

Next picture ladies and gentlemen, is a picture of two Laughing Hyenas, They are natives of Asia Minor. They have erections but twice a year and intercourse but once a year but what the hell they can see to laugh at in that, goodness only knows. Larry turn the crank.

Next picture ladies and gentlemen, is a picture of a Hippopotamus. A powerful beast of the wilds of Turkey. His hide is so thick that it can not be pierced by spear or arrow. In the pursuit of this animal the natives chase him across the ~~d~~ésert tickling his ass with^a ten dollar ostrich feather; when up goes his tail; in goes the arrow and the monarch of the desert lies prostrate. Larry, turn the crank.

Next picture ladies and gentlemen, is a picture of a Grane. He is found in all parts of the world, particularly in Highland Park. He feeds on fishes, bugs, reptiles and all things that crawl on the ground. In the pursuit of his food one day he found a very appetizing snake, caught him up, swallowed him and said, "Down you go." But the snake crawled through him and came out of his touch-hole. He grabbed him up again and says, "Down you go," and backed ~~up~~ against a fence, but the snake came through his touch=hole and then through a hole in the fence. Very mad, he grabbed him up ~~again~~ and says, "Down you go." and sits himself in the sand. Again the snake crawls out through his touch-hole into the sand. In a rage he finds him, swallows him, and very quickly sticks his beak in his touch-hole and as the snake comes out swallows him again and says, "Now loop=the-loop you son-of-a-bitch." Larry turn the crank.

Next picture ladies and gentlemen, is a picture of the Rhinosoorass. He is a native of the middle of Africa. His skin is so thick that it cannot be pierced by bullets or swords. The name Rhinosoorass is derived from two

Greek words, rhino, meaning money; and soreass, meaning piles; piles of money: That's what he cost. Larry, turn the crank.

Next picture ladies and gentlemen, is a picture of the Baboon, a native of India. He has a habit of going into the village and copping out the finest maiden=heads and taking them to the top of the tallest cocoanut trees and shagging them then and there. Then in the act of intercourse he says, "Ha Ha" and ejaculates large amounts of semen, which accounts for the milk in the cocoanuts, but not for the hair thereon. Larry, turn the crank.

The last and best picture I have to show you ladies and gentlemen, is Daniel in the Lions Den. The little lad over there in the red shirt, with the lions roaring about him is Daniel. Upon the throne is King Ebenezer; with all his whores around him. The King comes to the top of the pit, looks down and says, "How are things in the hole Daniel?" "What hole?" says Daniel. "Ass hole." says the King. "Suck it." says Daniel; which was considered a hell of a joke in those holy days. After which for eighty days and nights the King walked the highways and byways eating grass, and shitting buttermilk, for which he was called Dairyass. Then there came a hell of a draught upon the country and all the grass dried up and ever after the King was known as Dryass. Larry, turn the crank.

From Bibliothèque Erotique, Volume II,
published by The Society for
Sociological and Psychological
Research in Literature, London, 1929.
(in reality published by Mac [fly-by-
night outfit; probably an abbreviation]
in Detroit, 1929).
pages 506-514.

The Hamburg Show

Anonymous

Ladies and gents, are you ready? Larry turn the crank --

For we're going to the Hamburg Show,

See the monkey and the wild kangaroo,

And we'll all stick together in all sorts of weather

For we're gonna see the whole show through.

And in the next cage, ~~ladies~~ we have the South American

Llama who roams the wild mountain ranges

Of the Andes, leaping from precipice

To precipice, and back to piss again.

Larry turn the crank, etc.

And in the next cage, we have the Javanese Baboon

Who is so fat that every time time he winks his eye

He skins his prick. The ladies delight in throwing

Sand in his eyes to watch him masturbate.

Chorus:

And in the next cage we have the Australian Ostrich

Who, when frightened, sticks his head

Deep down into the desert sand and farts --

Hence the antipodal trade winds.

Chorus:

And in the next cage, we have the spotted leopard
Who has a spot for each day of the year.
You ask, lady, what he does in leap year?
Under his tail, madam, you will find the extra spot.

Chorus:

And in the next cage, we have the hippopotamus
Who has a square ass-hole and eats mud.
Every time he shits he hits bricks,
Hence the pyramids and Stanford University.

Chorus:

And in the next cage, we have the elephant
Whok strange enough, holds intercourse
But once every hundred years; but when -- he -- do --
HE DO! -- and how he does enjoy it!

Chorus:

And in the next cage, we have the rhinoceros
The wealthiest animal alive. His name comes from
Rhino meaning money, and sore ass meaning piles --
Hence, piles of money. See his ass in the bank.

Chorus:

Reprinted from the Immortalia
in [A.P. Morse], Folk Poems and
Ballads, Cruciform Press, Mexico
City (in reality U.S.A.), 1945
(in reality 1948), pp. 63.

From the Immortalia, probably
edited by T.R. Smith, 1927,
pages 153-154. Published by
Macy-Masius.

The Hamburg Show

Hey hey, where we going?

We're goin' to the Hamburg Show to see the lion,
the wild kangaroo.

Through fair and stormy weather, we'll all stick together
'Cause we're gonna see the whole show through.

Well, well, the gang's all here.

What the hell do we care: damn it to hell, we don't care now.

Hail, hail the gang's all here.

What the hell do we care now.

Hey, hey have you seen Be Elis the Diving Girl?

She does the two, two and a half off the two twenty
into a damp Kleenex.

Hey, hey, where we goin'?

Chorus

Hey, hey have you seen the spotted hyena;

He has 365 spots, one for every day in the year.

What's that lady? What does he do on leap year?

Lift up his tail, lift up his tail.

Hey, hey, where we goin'?

Chorus

Have you seen the stripped giraffe?

His neck is so long that every time he blinks his eyes,
he jacks himself off.

Hey, hey, where we goin'?

Chorus

Have you seen Op Elia the Dancin' Girl?

She shakes from her ankles to her calves,

From her calves to her knees, from her knees to her
thighs to Hole O.

Hey, hey, where we goin'?

Chours

Hey, hey, ballplayers, you don't have to knock 'em off;

You only have to knock 'em over. I can't win. I can
only lose. I just play because I love the game.

Hey, hey, where we goin'?

Chorus

From Old American Ballads, anonymous,
1952 Korean War publication. (micro)

The Hamburg Show

Chorus: We're going to the Hamburg Show,

To see the elephants and the wild kangaroos.

We'll all stick together in fair and stormy weather,

And we're going to see the whole show through.

Spoken: And in the next cage Ladies and Gentlemen,

And in the next cage we have Mr. and Mrs. Carriage,

And their daughter Miss Carriage.

Chorus

And in the next cage Ladies and Gentlemen,

And in the next cage we have the leopard who has

a spot for every day in the year.

What's that, Lady? Leap Year?

Look under the tail, Lady.

Chorus

And in the next cage, Ladies and Gentlemen,

And in the next cage we have the ostrich.

Now the snake goes in the ostrich's mouth and

comes out of his rear,

Now the snake goes in the ostrich's mouth and

comes out of his rear,

And the ostrich put his mouth up to his rear and

said,

Loop-de-loop, you son of a bich!

(cont'd)

Chorus

And in this next cage, Ladies and Gentlemen,
And in this next cage, we have the orangoutang.
He jumps from precipice to precipice and back to
piss again,
He jumps from precipice to precipice and back to
piss again.

Chorus

"It seems that back around 1918 the little town of Hamburg had an annual circus which the University of Michigan students attended. This song was one made up by the students about circus. There is a never ending string of verses, which become more crude as they go along...."

Dr. R.S. Breakey, University of
Michigan, ca. 1918
Marcia Guilbert, East Lansing,
Michigan, collector, collected
May, 1956

Chorus: We're off to the hamburg show
To the elephants and wild kangaroos.
And we'll all stick together in fair and stormy
weather,
And we'll all see the whole show through.

Verse: And now ladies and Gentlemen we come to cage number
one where we have the African kangaroo. When he
jumps he farts and when he farts he jumps. Now
the question is does his jumping make him fart or
does his farting make him jump?

(Cont'd)

Chorus repeat

Verse: And now Ladies and Gentlemen, we come to cage
number two where we have the Rhinosoreass. Rhino
meaning hard skin, sore ass meaning piles.

Chorus repeat

Verse: And now Ladies and Gentlemen we come to cage number
three where we have the crocodile. When he shits,
he shits bricks, hence the pyramids.

"I spent the weekend of Nov. 10th in the Kappa Alpha Theta house at Northwestern.... Everyone started talking and laughing and someone started singing. This led to the singing of "The Hamburg Show." After they had stopped, they started telling me the story of the famous song. It seems that a graduate of NU, a man of about fifty years old wrote 99 verses to this song and all of them just as funny as the verses I have related."

Shirley Swaney, Grand Rapids,
Michigan, heard at the Kappa
Alpha Theta sorority, U.
of Northwestern, November, 195

We're off to the Hamburg Show,
See the elephant and the wild kangaroo,
And we'll all stick together in fair or stormy weather,
And we're gonna see the whole show through.

"Now step right up to the first tent, Ladies and Gentlemen,
and see the male alligator. A wondrous creature is the
male alligator and a boon to man. And do you know why?
Well, I'll tell you. The female alligator lays one million
eggs and the male alligator eats 999,999,999 of these eggs.
And if the male alligator didn't, we'd be up to our ears in
alligators."

(Cont'd)

We're off to the Hamburg Show,
See the elephant and the wild kangaroo,
And we'll all stick together in fair or stormy weather,
And we're gonna see the whole show through.

"Now step right up to the second tent, Ladies and Gentlemen,
and see the Ki-Ki bird. Now the Ki-Ki bird lives only at
the North Pole. This bird is very rare because he flies
along over the icy land backwards and as he flies, he gives
his famous call --ki-ki-ki-ki-Ki-rist but it's cold up here."

"There are many more verses, but my informant could not
recall them. She said she heard the song this summer when
she worked at a resort in New York."

Sally Boone, East Lansing,
Michigan, November 3, 1955.
Pat Roberts, Kalamazoo, Michigan,
collector

Van Amberg is the man who goes to all the shows,
He walks into the lion's cage and tells you all he knows.
He puts his head in the lion's mouth and keeps it there a while
And when he takes it out again, he greets you with a smile.

Chorus: Oh, we'll all go to see Van Amberg's show,
See the lion and the wild kangaroo
Yes, we'll all get together and we'll go
To see Van Amberg's show.

(cont'd)

The lion in the next cage, most wonderful to relate
Got awfully mad the other day and ate up its female mate.
Now don't you go near his cage, I warn you little boys,
For when he's mad he wags his tail and makes an awful noise.

Chorus

"At Swarthmore College there is an annual event known as the Hamburg Show, which is a student produced and student written musical comedy. In conjunction with it we sing the following song, which I considered indigenous only to Swarthmore.

Oh, we're going to the Hamburg Show,
See the lion and the wild kangaroo.
And we'll all stick together in every
kind of weather,
'Cause we're going to see the whole thing
through.

Imagine my surprise at hearing my father-in-law burst forth with the Van Amberg variation, which he had learned from his uncle."

Nancy T. Hunter, East Lansing,
Michigan, heard at Swarthmore
Pennsylvania, 1944.

We're off to the zoo
To see the elephants and the wild Kangaroo.
And we'll all sing together
Through fair and stormy weather,
'Cause we're off to the Hamburg Zoo.

And on your right, ladies and gentlemen, we have the
world's only hippopotamus to be impregnated by a monkey.
You might say someone put him up to it.

(Chorus)

(Cont'd)

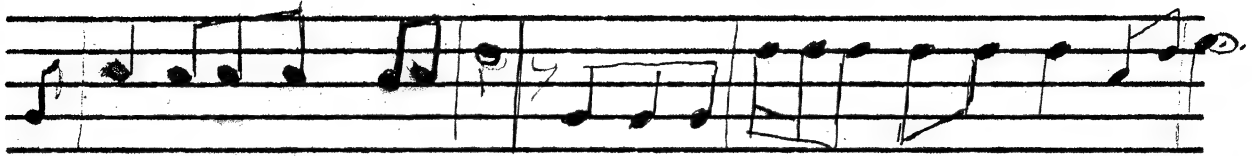
In this corner, ladies and gentlemen, we have the Ooo-ee bird, who feeds only on elephant ears. He masticates them in his oral cavity. They peek behind the tonsils, and slither down the esophagus. They say hello to the stomach and pass on through the pyloric sphincter. They go round and round in the small intestine; play peek-a-boo in the large intestine. And, well, you know the rest. It just waits to fly over _____ (member of the audience's) head.

"My informant learned this song from college students from "Old Miss," in the summer of 1961..."

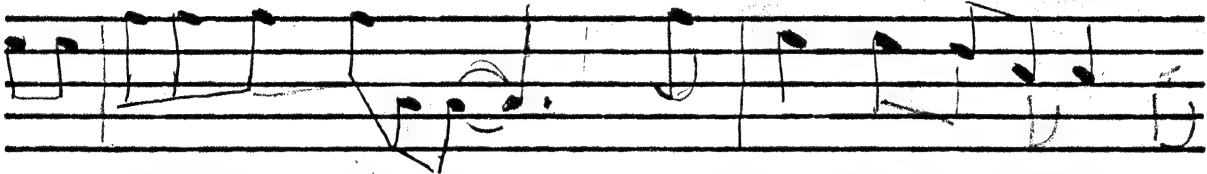
Judy Vincent, Indiana University,
July 28, 1962
Sue Schrader, South Bend,
Indiana, collector

also
(Outlaw fraternity)

Baron's Club Inc.
Bowling Green, Kentucky
December. 1956



Wer'e off to the hamburger show, to see the elephant and the wild kangaroo



We will always stick together through all sorts of weather



and see the whole damned show through.

SPOKEN

1. Now ladies and gentlemen as we pass through the Ornithological garden we come across the cage of the kee-kee bird who gets his name from his unusual habit of climbing to the top of a huge iceberg and sliding down on his ass and yelling kee kee krîst (christ) it's cold.
2. Now ladies and gentlemen as we pass on through the garden we find on our left the cage of the great speckle bird. This fabulous bird gets his name from the fact that it has a spot for each day of the year. But what about leap year? Lift his tail lady.
3. As we go further on our tour we find on our right the mug-wump baby bird. His name is derived from his unusual habit of sitting on a fence with his mug on one side and his wump on the other.
4. Now ladies and gentlemen as we travel deeper into the garden we come across the very small uuuuh-aaaaaaw! (uh! -strain aw! - sigh of relief). He derives his name from the fact that he lays an egg twice his size and lets out this grunt uuuuhh, aaahhhh!

Continued

Baron's Club Inc.
Bowling Green, Kentucky
December. 1956 (continued)

5. Next we come across the whfft bird. This bird gets his name because he will fly to the upper reaches of the stratosphere and then decends in ever diminishing circles until he flies up his own amis with a whfft.
6. Now ladies and gentlemen as we leave this land of fantasy and and enchantment if you will lend an ear you can hear in the background the friendly calls of the natives — Come back you bastards and pay your bills.

Charles J (Chuck) Holmes
Route #1
Scottsville, Kentucky

Restricted

Recorded T-7-10
Howard L.
by Quisenberry
+
Cecil Calvert

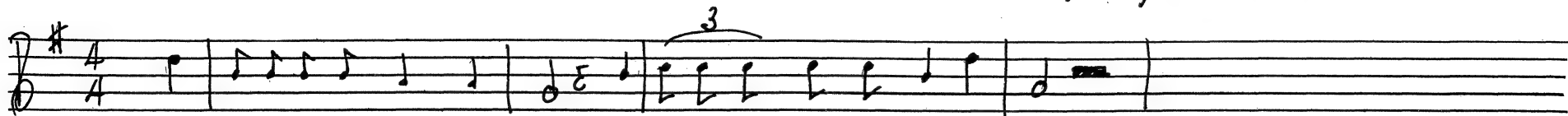
MUSIC needs revision

D. K. Wilgus
Western Kentucky Folklore Archive
Bowling Green, Kentucky

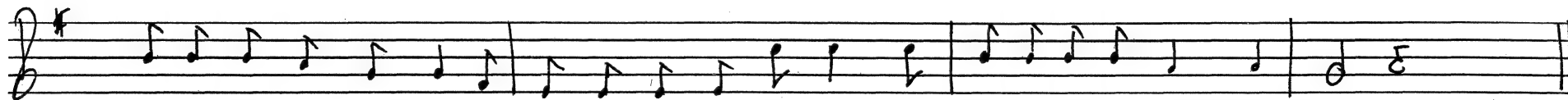
CLASSIFICATION FILE

"The Wild West Show" heard sung at a rugby party
Spring 1965 at IU

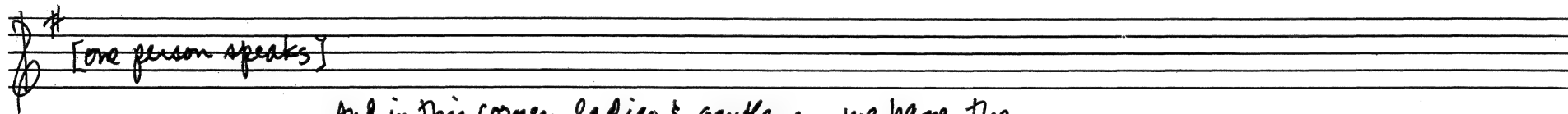
"The Wild West Show" heard sung at a rugby party
Spring 1965 at IU



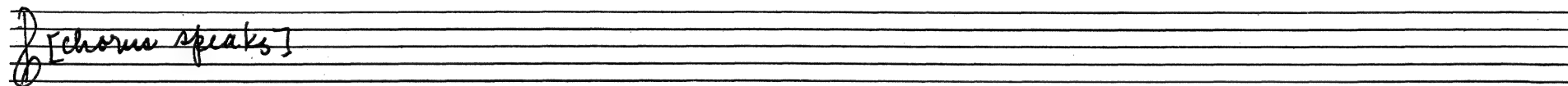
[Chorus] We're off to see the Wild West Show, The el-e-phant and the Kang-a-roo,



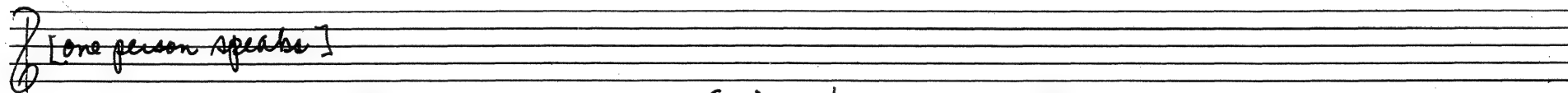
Never mind the weath-er as long as we're to-ge-th-er, we're off to see the Wild West show.



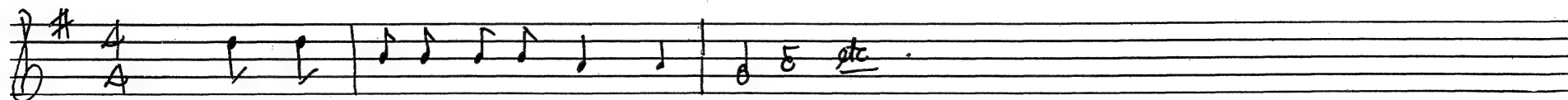
And in this corner, ladies & gentlemen, we have the _____



The _____!



Yes, the _____. (gives humorous explanation)



[Chorus] Oh, we're off to see the Wild West Show - - - -

✕ All: "The lēōpārd?"

Narrator: "Yes, the lēōpārd."

All: "Fāntastic."

rec'd about 12-2-65 from

Prof. Robert McFadden
Dept. of Mathematics
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

1. In this cage, ladies and gentlemen, we have the LĒŌPĀRD. ✕
This animal lives in the deepest, darkest jungles of Africa, and is a swift
and vicious hunter. To fit it for this life, it is camouflaged by having
spots all over its body, 365 of them, one for each day of the year.
"What about leap year?" "Lift up its tail."

Chorus.

2. " " " " " GIRAFFE. ✕

(Description, elaborate or not, of the giraffe and/or its habitat; at the
discretion of the narrator, this may be omitted).

The giraffe is the only animal ~~xxxx~~ in the world that can walk into a bar
and say "The highballs are on me."

3. POLAR BEAR. ✕

(Description)?

To catch this animal, dig a hole in the ice and surround the hole with peas.
When the bear comes up to take a pea, kick it in the ice hole.

4. LION. ✕

The lion is unique in the animal kingdom, being the only pussy in the
world that will eat you.

5. ORANG OUTANG. ✕

This animal has balls of brass, and as it swings from branch to branch in
the jungle, you can hear its balls clashing together: Orang outang, orang outang.

6. CROCOGATOR. ✕

This is the meanest animal in the world. It has the head of an alligator at
one end & the head of a crocodile at the other. "How does it shit?"

"It does not; that's what makes it so mean."

✱ All: "The lēōpārd?"
Narrator: "Yes, the lēōpārd."
All: "Fāntastic."

We're off to see the Wild West Show,
The Elephant and the Kangeroo.
Never mind the weather,
As long as we're together,
We're off to see the Wild West Show.

1. In this cage, ladies and gentlemen, we have the LĒOPĀRD. ✱
This animal lives in the deepest, darkest jungles of Africa, and is a swift
and vicious hunter. To fit it for this life, it is camouflaged by having
spots all over its body, 365 of them, one for each day of the year.
"What about leap year?" "Lift up its tail."

Chorus.

2. " " " " " " GIRAFFE. ✱
(Description, elaborate or not, of the giraffe and/or its habitat; at the
discretion of the narrator, this may be omitted).
The giraffe is the only animal ~~xxxx~~ in the world that can walk into a bar
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When the bear comes up to take a pea, kick it in the ice hole.

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This is the meanest animal in the world. It has the head of an alligator at
one end & the head of a crocodile at the other. "How does it shit?"
"It does not; that's what makes it so mean."

✱

WILD MAN FROM BORNEO.

This man has an enormous penis, 18 inches long and $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter.
"What about his balls?" "He has none; that's what makes him so wild."

8.

✱

FAT ASSED LADY.

The fattest woman in the world. She has a large W tattooed on one buttock, the same on the other, and when she bends over: WOW.

9.

✱

FUKAWEE TRIBE.

This tribe of pygmies lives in tall grass country and they often get lost. Then they jump up and down to see over the grass, shouting their tribal cry: "Fukawee, where the fukawee?"

10.

✱

OOH AH BIRD.

The female lives at the north pole, the male at the south pole; once a year they meet at the equator. Then can be heard their plaintive cry: OOH AH, OOH AH.

11.

✱

OMAGOOMLA BIRD.

This bird has very large testicles and very short legs, and every time it lands it cries "Omagoonla, omagoonla."

12.

✱

COLLEGE MAN.

This animal will mate only with a female who has a sense of humour, so as soon as he ~~met~~ meets a likely partner, he gives her a testicle.

13.

✱

ITCHY KITCHY KOO BIRD.

Flies in ever decreasing circles until it sticks its head up its own ass, then shouts "Itchy kitchy koo." This means little to us, but to other itchy kitchy koo birds it means "I can't see for shit."

14.

✱

THE MATHEMATICAL IMPOSSIBILITY.

A little girl who was 8 before she was seven.

15.

✱

FRENCH LIMOUSINE.

Very large. One can get 8 in the front, and 69 in the back.

16.

✱

WINKY WANKY BIRD.

Has its foreskin attached to its eyelid. Every time it winks, it wanks, and every time it wanks, it winks. Don't throw sand in the bird's eyes.

8a.

There was one sung at the rugby party Leon and I went to with the McFaddens, not on this list; it was sung immed. following the Fat Lady:

The Fat Lady's Sister...she has "Merry Christmas" tattooed on one buttock, and "Happy New Year" on the other, and she says, "Won't you come up and see me between the holidays."

John Walsh
Urbana, Ill.
12-4-65

John typed these out & we made the tape
before I would show him M^S Fadden's
Contribution.

THE WILD WEST SHOW

Oh, we're off to see the wild west show,
The elephant and the Kangaroo-o-o.
Never mind the weather, as long as we're together,
We're off to see the wild west show.

①

The Barker: In this cage, ladies and gentlemen, we have the
African Giraffe.*

All: The African Giraffe?

B: Yes, ladies and gentlemen, the African Giraffe.

A: Fantastic!

B: Now the African Giraffe is a very generous fellow. He's the
only animal who walks into a bar and says, "O.K. guys,
the highballs are on me."

*: pronounced
Gee'-raff -
all animal names
are exaggerated
in the name
of a
side show
barker

chorus----

②

B: And Here, ladies and gentlemen, is the African Leopard.*

A: The African Leopard?*

B: Yes, ladies and gentlemen, the African Leopard.

A: Fantastic.

B: Ladies and gentlemen, here we have the most amazing animal
in the world. He has three hundred and sixty-five spots,
one for every day in the year. (From the crowd comes a
high voice: "But sir, what about leap year?")
Lift his tail, lady, lift his tail.

* Lee'-o-pard.

--chorus--

In the same spirit, the amazed tourists are led past such
fantastic animals as:

③

The Concentric Bird--this bird, when attacked, flies in
ever-decreasing circles until at last it flies up its own
anal orifice, thereby leaving its enemies in the dark.

④

The Orangutang--whose balls are made of brass and dangle
three feet below his ass. When he swings thru the jungle,
they clang together with the noise "Orange*-Utang, Orange*-Utang"

⑤

The Barumba-Barumba bird--evidently a related species, since
it also has brass balls dangling three feet below its ass.
When he flies ~~low~~ low over the village roofs, his balls go
"Barumba-Barumba"

⑥

The Kiwi Bird--This little fellow isn't much to look at--only
two feet tall--but he has the longest pecker in the world.

⑦

Santa Claus--who only comes once a year, and then it's down
a chimney.

⑧

The Tatooed Lady--On her left buttock is tatooed a "W" and
on her right buttock is tattooed another "W", and when she

bends over, WOW!

(9) The Tattooed Lady's assistant-- On one leg ~~she is~~ tattooed "Merry Christmas," and on the other leg is tattooed "Happy New Year," and she cordially invites you to drop in between the seasons.

(10) The Fuckawe Pygmies--who live on the ~~plains~~ plains of Central Africa, where the grass grows three feet high. The pygmies are only two feet high, and go around saying, "Where the Fuckawe?"

(11) The Homosexual Spider--who is called by that name because it has the funny habit of playing with other spiders flies.

(12) The Homosexual Indian-- a brave fucker. (In a nearby cage is the 97 Pound Weakling Who Went to Alaska--he came back a husky fucker.)

(13) The Homosexual Mailman--another denizen of this queer corner of the zoo, who is always putting his hand into mail boxes.

(14) The Piebald pony--so called because his balls are 3.1416 inches in diameter.

(15) The Armadillo--These little creatures travel head-to-tail in a long line. When danger threatens, the last one runs into the asshole of the next in line, who in turn runs up the asshole of the one in front of him and so on up to the very first one, who cries out "Armadillo!" This may not mean much to you, but in Armadillo language, it means "Jesus Christ, I'm buggered!"

(16) The fight Between the Ostrich and the Python--these animals are deadly enemies. Ding! Round one. They come out and eye each other warily. Suddenly the python leaps into the open mouth of the ostrich, slithers down his esophagus, round his intestines, and out his fundamental orifice. Round one to the Python. Ding! Round two. They eye each other warily, and again the Python leaps in the mouth of the Ostrich, goes down his esophagus, round his intestines and out his fundamental orifice. Round two to the Python. Ding! Round three. They come out, looking very determined. Once again the python jumps down the open throat of the Ostrich, goes down his esophagus and around his intestines. Suddenly the Ostrich puts his head around to his own anal orifice, looks the python in the eye, and says "Loop-the-loop, you bugger."

(17) The Ooh-Aah Bird--who lays big square eggs, and then, "Ooh-Aah."

(18) The Lion--The only pussy that eats you.

the homosexual sticks his ass out of the igloo, the covered with chaps

The Wild West Show --cont.

- (19) The African Ostrich--Who lays round eggs three feet in diameter; you ought to see his oss-stretch.
- (20) The African Kee-Kee Bird--Who lives on the tipmost top of the tipmost top of Kilimangaro, and when he slides down on his ass on the glaciers, ice and frozen lakes, he hollers, "Kee-kee-kee-kee-rist it's cold up here!"
- (21) The Winky-Wanky bird** who has his foreskin tied to his eyebrow, so when he winks, he winks, and when he winks, he winks.
- (22) Tarzan and his Ape-Call--Tarzan got his ape-call in the following manner: One day he decided to teach his mate, Jane, how to swing through the jungle as he did. "First, Jane, you grab the vine--the vine, Jane, the vine--No Jane, the vi--Oooooeeeyah!"
- (23) Polar Bear--The Eskimos catch these animals by first chopping a hole in the ice, and then sprinkling a can of peas around the edge. When the bear comes down to take a pea, they kick him in the ice hole. (This is similar to the method used in Africa to trap Elephants, wherein the natives dig a deep hole, in which they burn logs until the bottom is coated with a thick layer of ash. Then a can of peas is sprinkled around the edge and when the Elephant comes to take a pea, they kick him in the ~~xxxxx~~ ash hole.)
- (24) The African Elephant--this animal only defecates once a year, and--stand back, boy--and when he does--stand back boys-- as I was saying, when he does--stand back, boy--oops, too late, dig him out.

(From various parties at Urbana, Chicago, Bloomington, Davenport Ia., & Princeton, N.J.)

For what its worth on where I picked these up - most of them ~~are~~ turn up at all the ^{Roughly} parties & are generally common property, but a few can be pinned down more closely.

⑤ was from a Notre Dame player, as were ⑧ + ⑨

⑥ was from a New Zealander going to Palmer Chiropractic College in Davenport, Iowa - another verse that came up at that party was the one about the chiropractor - instead of your fooling with his bone, he fools with yours. Considering its quality, I was surprised to hear

UNTITLED RECITATION

Learned from Robert and Patrick Child, twins and classmates, about 1947
(6th grade), in New Haven, Connecticut.

Step right up, ladies and gentlemen.
Count the thirteen strips on the zebra's
Assk that man to take his finger out of the monkey's
Holed it woman, you're backing into a bucket of
Ssht, the baby elephant's asleep.

Joseph C. Hickerson
From memory, 1965, December
Accokeek, Maryland

UChA
Fall, 1967

Stephen Aronson
Mr. Kuss

"Wild West Show Collection."

The following fifty-two verses have been collected in the month of November, 1967. There are 27 different versions of the Wild West Show with more than five derivative or like-versions of the song. About four days were taken in collecting them from ten informants. Most of the verses were collected from San Fernando Valley State Rugby players, with the exception of one informant being from the U.C.L.A. Rugby Club. This collection has within it a tape with more than ten individual verses sung by members of the S.F. V.S. Club.

I had difficulty securing data for this collection for these reasons 1.) I live on campus and lack a car. 2.) This is not the Rugby season and there is no way to get in touch with a whole team. You have to have personal contacts of your own. I would have liked to have secured additional information from other teams but there is no one to contact. This is the reason I relied so heavily on S.F. V.S.C. informants.

In collecting the versions, the procedure was to go to a member of the team I personally knew. After receiving information from him, I would be referred to another team mate, and so I went from home to home. The difficulty of this was the informant could hardly bring to mind any of the verses from the preceding year. The informants needed a stimulus. So I arranged for a meeting at the local tavern (Shakeups)

in late November, of the entire club and ⁴taped the singing of the Wild West Show. It was a very successful endeavor, giving me confidence in the Ruggers' ability to remember, and also their ability to drink vast stores of beer.

All the versions have been taken down in long hand almost exactly as told. There has been some interjections by the author in order to make the verses readily understandable.

Dialectical expressions, but particularly pronunciation of animal names have been noted. A great amount of these expressions (obscenities) and pronunciations have been thrown in with these verses for the purpose of enjoyment of by the group who have heard the verses before.

They ^(verses) would become quite dull and drab if the verses didn't evolve. It seems the more abuse the song becomes the more enjoyable and spontaneous the singing becomes. This is the time of verse invention, and also a time of verse shock. For example some verses have a shock value especially in mixed company. The Ruggers know this and delight in ^{making} shocking remarks and gestures with the singing.

Even though sometimes the verse borders on the obscene most of the interviewed ^{people} will receive their degree in one to two years. The majority of the informants are upper middle class students who will become professional people.

It is also important to note their ability of being a barker (solo in the song) differed widely and there is good evidence in this collection.

Some of the informants had remarkable memories and were also quite inventive, while others who never took a lead in the singing the song had real difficulty in remembering the verses to the Wild West Show.

Most of the verses to this song have been learned at inter-team Rugby parties and beer-busts after Rugby matches. Songs and verses are sung by different teams and even swapped.

There is a lot of Rugby lore to be learned at the annual Rugby Invitational. Forty teams are invited to Avalon to play Rugby. It is a good example of the transmission of lore. In this collection ^{there} are a number of verses that show evidence of this fact.

There are other songs sung at Rugby Parties, one of these is an old English song, Marring Kend & which describes various Rugby positions with a sexual viewpoint. Others are: Lydia Pinkham

Ole Mac Donald, In China They Do it for Chide, which carry the same flavor to parties as The Wild West Show

Though most of the verses tend to be transmitted from club to club, and all heard at one time or another, many verses drop from view in individual Clubs. There is a tendency ^{new} for my informants

to remember the simpler, and the oldest forms of verses. For example in this collection these are the most numerous: "The Orang-A-Iong", "Yumac Bird", "Lion", "No-No Bird", "Camoul", and the "Ubangi tribe". They were mentioned over and over again because they have been sung and heard for over two-to-four years. The newer verses I found tend to be more complex and longer in content. Because of this their life history within the song may not last.

"Wild West Show"

List of Informants

1.) Richard D. Frey	S.F.U.S. RUGBY TEAM
2.) Stephen F. Curry	" "
3.) Max Beaman	" "
4.) Stephen Bedau	" "
5.) Richard Braithwaite	" "
6.) Art Bugg	" "
7.) Michael Judd	" "
8.) Tom Halpin	" "
9.) David Shaw	" "
10.) Lyle Timmerman	UCLA RUGBY TEAM.

Wild West Show

LIST OF Informants on tape

1. Richard Wisheart
2. Pat Judd
3. Richard Frey
4. Dave Shew
5. Richard Braithwaite
6. Ed. Huls
7. Tom Halpin
8. Stephen Halpin
9. Max Beeman
10. Joe Haraldson
11. Dick Izzl
12. Tom Drenin
13. Bruce Maurer
14. Tom Allen
15. Ron Blair
16. Roger Robles
17. Tim Mc Isaac

Wild West Show

Table of Verses

1. Ki-Ki-Bird
2. Yumac Bird
3. No-No Bird
4. Yes-Yes Bird
5. OGUM - MALLUGUM Bird (HUGBUM - MULLUGUM)
6. Sandwich Bird
7. OO-AH Bird
8. FU-FU Bird
9. WINK - Wac Bird
10. Umph - Umph Bird
11. Rat-tat-tat Bird
12. Russian Yellow-Bellied Breast Suoker
13. Russian Robin
14. O-Rang-A-Tang
15. O-Rang-A-Thud
16. Hyenia
17. Camel
18. Leo-pard
19. Lion
20. Giraff
21. Homosexual Spider
22. Fugari Tribe
23. Ubangi Tribe
24. Tattooed Lady
25. Midget
26. Lady Sheriff
27. Drom-A-Dairy

Wild West Show

sung by the group: We're off to see the Wild West Show,
the Elephants and the Kangoo-oo-ooos,
No matter what the weather, as long
as we're together, we're off to
see the Wild West Show....

barker : Step right up ladies and gentlemen
boys and girls in this corner we have
a Gee-Raft

Spoken by the group

A Gee-Raft!! Fantastic!! What
the hell is a Gee-Raft?

barker : A Gee-Raft is a strange and interesting
creature found on the central plains of
Africa - but that's not what so unusual
'bout this animal - This is the only animal
in the animal Kingdom that can go into
a bar and say:

The highballs are on me !!

group Ahhhhh — F — K

group picks up quick-

ly and the song begins We're off to see the Wild West
Show, the Elephants and the

Ink, Please

Name of Informant

Michael Judd

Age 20

Address

7501

Quaker-Town

Canoga Park

L.A. Calif

City

County

State

Item of Folklore: Wild West Show

00 - AHH BIRD.

heard in 1967 - Renda

The 00-AHH Bird is an interesting animal in the fact that the female of the species weighs only five pounds, and the egg she lays weighs ten pounds - As she lays the huge egg she can be heard screaming 00000 - then ahhhhh...

The Midget (midge) ette)

The midget is not like any of the other little people. You see the midget weighs a grand total of 30 lbs. His testicles weigh 15 lbs of the total - As you can see by now, the midget is half-nuts.....

Camuel

The Camuel is a strange animal of the Drum-A-Dairy family. He is an exotic animal on the verge of extinction because of his sexual inadequacies - You see, he is the only animal that will dry hump in a sand-storm.

Rat-tat-tat Bird

The Rat-tat-tat bird is quite rare. You see the bird flying at night just over corrugated roofs. He does it for a reason. ~~He does~~ of self-stimulation. The birds height is two feet but the length of his sexual appendage, his cock that is, is 6 ft. He zooms in low (about 3 inches) over the corrugated roof tops a 75 mph. and if you are in the house you can hear him buzz by - Rat-tat-tat, Rat-tat-tat.....

First Heard (by informant)

1966

Avalon

L.A.

Calif

Year

City

County

State

Background on the item, or on the informant:

Mike plays water polo, rugby, basketball and is an avid skier. He now attends Fresno State after playing with the San Fernando Rugby Team for 1 year. Most of the verses Mike knows are news ones heard at the Avalon turnney tourney at Avalon.

Collected By

Stephen Kravitz

Date

Dec 3, 1967

City

Renda

State

Calif

(over, if necessary)

Ink, Please

Name of Informant

Tom Halpin

Age 22

Address

7618

Hollywood Ave

U.N.

L.A.

Calif

City

County

State

Item of Folklore: Wild West Show

Camuel

The Camuel is a very practical animal found in North Africa. You see, the camuel is the only animal that can dry hump ^{with another camuel} across an entire desert.....

Hyenia (Hi-ex-u-22)

The Hyenia is a cousin of the wild dog. He lives in Africa and hasn't phornocated, defecated or masterbated for five years, and what's he's laughing at I'll never know....

Ki-Ki Bird

The Ki-Ki-bird is native to the Arctic coast - He can be seen certain times of the year sliding on glaciers and ice bargs screaming Ki-Ki-Key rist its cold.

No-No Bird

The No-No Bird is found only in Guinea. The bird is peculiar because it has a 3 inch body length with a 10 inch phallic length and every time he has to land he goes "No!-No!-No!".....

Lion

The Lion is found in the deserts of the South African desert country - The Lion is strange and belongs in our show because it is the only 50 lb pussy that eats you..

Homo sexual Spider

The homo sexual spider is a very peculiar insect - He is the only spider that specializes in eating other spiders flies

First Heard (by informant)

1965-1967

Year

Reside

City

L.A.

County

Calif

State

Background on the item, or on the informant:

Tom Halpin, Senior at Valley State majoring in Art
He has been playing rugby for almost three years
most of the verses he knows have been picked up at
various rugby parties but he is not exactly sure of the
date

Collected By

Stephen Anaya

Date

Nov 3, 1967

City

Reside

State

Calif

(over, if necessary)

Ink, Please

Name of Informant

David Shaw

Age 23

Address

1049

Hayworth

L.A.

Calif

City

County

State

Item of Folklore: Wild West Show

Homosexual Spider

The homosexual spider is both a strange and interesting member of the Arachnidae family. He is different for the reason that he is the only member of that family that eats other spiders flies.....

ORANG-A-TANG

The Orang-A-Tang is a strange and wiley creature found in the jungles of darkest Java. The Orang-a-Tang is almost like his relative the ~~Orang-A-Tang~~ Orangatang but he differs in one respect. The Orangatang has two large five pound brass balls - and as he swings through the trees they go arang-a-tang, a rang-a-tang.....

Yumac Bird

The Yumac Bird is an interesting animal - this bird is native to the Japanese Islands. He is very anti-Chinese and anti-Japanese because he flies over crowded Oriental Cities - dropping shits on people screaming at the top of his lungs "Fuck Yumac!"

Homosexual Spider 1967

Avalon

L.A.

ORANG-A-TANG 1965

Reseda

L.A.

Yumac Bird

First Heard (by informant) 1967

Avalon

L.A.

Calif

Year

City

County

State

Background on the item, or on the informant:

David Shaw is a native of Scotland is a member of the SFVSC Rugby Team. David is an Engineering major and after earning his degree David will return to Scotland

Collected By

Stephen Arroyo

Date

Nov 3, 1967

City

Reseda

State

Calif

(over, if necessary)

Ink, Please
Name of Informant David Shaw Age 23
Address 10419 Hayworth L.A. Calif
City County State

Item of Folklore: Wild West Show Osterick vs. Snake

The informant tells me that this verse many times climaxed the complete song Wild West Show

Ding-Ding → Ladies and Gentleman the next bout is tween the Osterick and the Snake

Ding-Ding → Osterick circles Snake, Snake circles Osterick
Round #1 Osterick swallows snake - but snake makes it's way out Osterick's fundamental orifice - for ingenuity snake is awarded Round #1

Ding-Ding
Round #2 → Osterick circles Snake, Snake circles Osterick Osterick swallows Snake, and backs up against wooden fence thereby trapping snake. Snake slithers out Osterick's fundamental orifice and escapes through knot hole in fence - for ingenuity Snake is awarded Round #2

Ding-Ding
Round #3 → Osterick circles Snake, Snake circles Osterick Osterick swallows snake. Snake makes way out of Osterick fundamental orifice. Osterick turns neck around and grabs Snake as Snake is half-way out. Osterick crys "Circulate You Bloody Bastard!" for ingenuity Osterick awarded the match
Ding-Ding

First Heard (by informant) 1963 Dundee Scotland England
Year City County State

Background on the item, or on the informant:

Collected By Stephen Benge Date Nov 3, 1961
City Reside State Calif

Ink, Please
Name of Informant Richard Braithwaite Age 20
Address 5911 Penfield Ave W.H. L.A. Calif
City County State

Item of Folklore: WILD WEST SHOW

NO-NO BIRD

The No-No Bird lives in American Samoa. His natural habitat is the jungles of the highlands. Besides sitting and shitting the No-No is a fantastic aerial exhibitionist. After he's done his exhibiting he begins his descent for a landing. But he has one hairy obstacle to overcome - its his 8 ft picker. His legs are only five inches long, and when he comes in for a landing at 100 mph he goes NO!! NO!! NO!!
(informant makes a stopping motion with his arms)

YES-YES BIRD.

The Yes-Yes Bird is the female counter-part of the No-No bird. She hides and pumps out just before he (the No-No bird) lands spreads her legs to ensure fertilization and procreation of the species.....

* (The yes-yes bird were almost always follows the No-No verse)

HYENIA (HI-EX-U-ED)

Hyenia is found in the deserts of Saudi Arabia he is an animal that hasn't fornicated, urinated, defecated, or masturbated in ten years. The funny part about it is that he can still laugh.....

NO-NO BIRD.	1965	Reseda	L.A.	Calif
YES-YES BIRD.	1966	Avalon	L.A.	
Hyenia	1965	Reseda		

First Heard (by informant) _____
Year City County State

Background on the item, or on the informant:

Rich Plapp on the line for S.F. U.S.C. He has played rugby for 2 seasons. He is a Poly Sci major hoping to graduate with his degree in 2 years. He has heard most of the verses he knows in Avalon, or Reseda after games

Collected By Stephen Amato Date Nov 3, 1967
City Reseda State Calif

(over, if necessary)

Ink, Please
Name of Informant Richard Braithwaite Age 20
Address 5911 Penfield Ave W.H. C.A. Calif
City County State

Item of Folklore: Wild West Show

- OGUM - MALLUGUM BIRD

The Ogum-Mallugum Bird flips over (you state the place you are at) in wide circles. The bird makes spact and tighter concentric circles til he flips up his own asshole and disappears.....

First Heard (by informant) 1967 | Avalon L.A. Calif
Year City County State

Background on the item, or on the informant:

Collected By Stephen Anaya Date Nov 3, 1967
City Reseda State Calif

(over, if necessary)

Ink, Please
Name of Informant Stephen Bidau Age 23
Address 18133 Roscoe #5 City L.A. County Calif State

Item of Folklore: Wifed-West Show

TATTOOED LADY

The tattooed lady is an enchantress if I have ever seen one. She is friends with all the boys in the show. On one leg she has tattooed Merry Xmas, and on the other leg is written Happy New Year → And because of this she's always inviting the boys to come in on see hear between the seasonal holidays.....

Ubangi Tribe

The Ubangis are only found in Africa. The women do all the work while the men while-away the hours. You see it is because of this the tribe has received its name by missionaries. You see when the women would return home from the fields they weren't as ready for sex as the men were, so the women would say "I'm tired, Ubangi".....

Gue - Raft

The Gue-Raft is the only animal that ^{just 1965 runs} can go into a bar, order for everyone, while saying, "The Highballs are on me!"...

And that's what I call sticking your neck out.....

Tattooed lady
Ubangi tribe
First Heard (by informant) 66 Year Avalon City L.A. County Calif State

Background on the item, or on the informant:

Stephen Bidau is a married Rigger. I will soon graduate from SFUSC. He is quite active in Water Polo. He learned most of his verses at the Catalina Rugby Tournament at Avalon which is an annual event.

Collected By Stephen Arroyo Date Nov 21, 1967
City Reseda State Calif

(over, if necessary)

Ink, Please

Name of Informant

Stephen Bedau

Age 23

Address

18133 Roscoe #5

L.A.

Calif

City

County

State

Item of Folklore: Wild west show

Ubangi tribe

The Ubangi tribe is really screwed up cause the men work 23½ hrs. out of a 24 hr. day. When they (men) come home to their wives they are exhausted from working in the fields. They drop into and tell their wives "Ubangi I'm tired".....

Fw-Fw Bird

The Fw-Fw bird is a strange animal that flies to great altitudes, sometimes to 20,000 - 25,000 ft. high. He then dives at the speed of 750 mph. and just misses hitting the ground by inches by pulling out in time. As he pulls out of the dive he can be heard saying Fu-Fu-FUCK that was close.....

Ubangi 66
Fu-Fu-Bird

Avalon L.A.

Calif

First Heard (by informant)

66
Year

Reside L.A.

City

County

State

Background on the item, or on the informant:

Collected By

Stephen Anaya

Date

Nov 21, 1967

City

Reside

State

Calif

(over, if necessary)

Ink, Please

Name of Informant May BlumanAge 21Address 10437 Irondale

City

L.A.

County

Calif

State

Item of Folklore: Wild West ShowTattooed Lady

The tattooed lady has Merry Xmas tattooed on one thigh, and Happy New Year tattooed on her other thigh and she's always telling us to drop in between the Holidays real holiday spirit

Orang-a-Tang

An Orang-A-Tang is an animal missing his scrotum. Instead he has two large ball-bearings attached by a string to his crotch and as he swings through the trees they go Orang-A-Tang, Orang-A-Tang....

Lion

The Lion is a very strange animal indeed. You see it is the only 300 pound pussy that eats you!!

Camel (Kam you el)

The camel is wonderful animal indeed - He needs no lubricant when performing the sex act, because he is the only animal that can dry hump across an entire desert.....

First Heard (by informant) 1965 | Reseda | L.A. | Calif

Year

City

County

State

Background on the item, or on the informant:

May is a physical education major. He has been playing back on the S.F. V.S.C. Rugby for four years. He has heard many of the verses over the years - but these are the only ones he can remember because it is the off-season.

Collected By Stephen Arango

Date

Nov 21, 1967City Reseda

State

Calif

(over, if necessary)

Ink, Please

Name of Informant Max Bluman Age 21

Address 10437 Irondale Chatsworth L.A. Calif
City County State

Item of Folklore: Wild West Show

The Sandwich Bird
1967 - Austin

The Sandwich bird is found in Australia he is extremely rare. It is the most sexually frustrated animal on earth. All day he flies over the bleak ~~forest~~ ^{desert} screaming - Eat me, Eat me (high pitched) hence his name

No - No Bird
1967 - Reseda

The No - No Bird found in the jungles of South America. It is a strange bird cause it has a 10 inch body and a 15 inch cock, and everytime he comes in for a landing he goes, "No! - No!"

(the informant illustrates the landing using his arms trying to break his fall)

Yes - Yes Bird
1967 - Austin

(This verse is repeated after the verse of the No - No Bird)

The Yes - Yes Bird is the bird that purposely lies under the No - No Bird when it comes in for a landing....

First Heard (by informant) _____
Year City County State

Background on the item, or on the informant:

Collected By Stephen Araya Date Nov 21, 1967
City Reseda State Calif

(over, if necessary)

Ink, Please

Name of Informant

Stephen F. Cursy

Age 21

Address

6812 Chimineas, Reseda

L.A.

Calif

City

County

State

Item of Folklore: Wild West Show

Hyenia pronounced (Hi-eeen-yoo-aa)

The Hyenia is a strange and interesting beast found on the San-Ghetto Plain - He hasn't phornogated, master-bated or defecated for ten years, and what he's laughing at, I'll never know.....

Ubangi tribe

The Ubangi tribe is an exotic tribe of the Coast of Dakar the women of the tribe do all the hard work while the Ubangi men do nothing. After making dinner and putting the children to bed the exhausted are forced to please the sexual appetites of their loafing husbands To which the women say to their husbands "Ubangi tonight love, I'm tired".....

ORANG-A-TANG

The Orang-a-Tang is a strange and interesting beast found in South East Asia. He is different from his cousin the Urangatang because he has 2 large brass balls and as they swing through the trees they go A-RANG-A-TANG, A-RANG-A-TANG, and that's how they got their name....

First Heard (by informant)

1965

Year

Reseda

City

L.A.

County

Calif

State

Background on the item, or on the informant:

Physical Education Major at San Fernando Valley State College. Member of the San Fernando Rugby Team for two seasons. Now serving in Viet Nam.

Collected By

Stephen Cursy

Date

Nov 3, 1967

City

Reseda

State

Calif

(over, if necessary)

Ink, Please

Name of Informant

Stephen F. Curry

Age

71

Address

6812 Chiminan, Reside L.A.

Calif

City

County

State

Item of Folklore: Wild West Show

Fugari Tribe

The fugari tribe is a tribe of Pygmies indigenous to the Congo drainage system. It is a land of dense undergrowth and marshes. The Fugari's are people that stand no higher than three ft. tall and they live in vast stands of savannah grass that grows 6-7 ft. tall. and every day the chief comes out of the village, parts the grass and shouts We're the Fugarée (Where the Fuck are we?)

Ki - Ki Bird

The Ki-Ki Bird is a strange, and interesting bird found only in Ant-Artica. He is peculiar because of his unique cry. You see, during mating season the Ki-Ki Bird slides down ice-bergs, and as he slides - he cries "Ki-Ki-Keyrist its cold (Christ its cold)"

First Heard (by informant)

1966

Year

Reside

City

L.A.

County

Calif

State

Background on the item, or on the informant:

Collected By

Stephen Curry

Date

Nov 3, 1967

City

Reside

State

Calif

(over, if necessary)

Ink, Please

Name of Informant Lyle Timmerman Age 25
Address 3200 E. South Barrington L.A. CALIF
City County State

Item of Folklore: No # 25 WINK-Wac Bird
No # 26 Umph-Umph Bird verses to the "Wild West Show"
No # 2 ARANG-A-TANG

25. The Wink-Wac Bird is a very strange and exotic animal. It seems that his foreskin is attached to his eyelid, and every time he winks, he wacs!

26. The Umph-Umph Bird is a very peculiar bird. It seems this bird flies only in flocks of threes. His peculiar flying habits are mainly for protection against predators...

Let me explain scientifically. When approached by his enemy the first Umph-Umph bird flies up the 2 second Umph-Umph Bird's asshole. The second Umph-Umph Bird in turn flies up the third's asshole leaving their enemy ^{pursuer} in total darkness.

2. The Arang-A-Tang is a member of the Primate Family. He is a very peculiar animal in the fact the way he was given his name. You see the A-RANG-A-Tang has two huge 10 pound-steel balls, and as he flies and jumps through the trees - they go A-RANG-A-TANG, A-RANG-A-TANG.

First Heard (by informant) 1964 Westwood W.L.A. Calif
Year City County State

Background on the item, or on the informant:

Economics Major at U.C.L.A. He informs me that U.C.L.A.'s team has not song the Wild West Show in over two years. MR. Timmerman two

Collected By Stephen Aray Date Nov 27, 1967
City Westwood State Calif

(over, if necessary)

Ink, Please
Name of Informant Tyler Zimmerman Age 25
Address 3200 E. South Barrington L.A. Calif
City County State

Item of Folklore: Wild West Show

Camel

The camel is an exotic animal - The only animals, in fact that can dry hump in pairs on a caravan, and get away with it

Yumac Bird

The Yumac Bird is a strange animal that flies over the forest; when he sees an enemy he flips the bird, and cries out FUCK YUMAC! FUCK YUMAC!

First Heard (by informant) _____
Year City County State

Background on the item, or on the informant:

Collected By _____ Date _____
City _____ State _____

(over, if necessary)

Ink, Please

Name of Informant

Art Bugg

Age

24

Address

8927 Baird Ave Northridge

U.S.

Calif

City

County

State

Item of Folklore: WILD WEST SHOW

YUMAC BIRD

The Yumac Bird is found in Central America. Known because it sleeps primarily in the day. If awakened in the daylight hours the bird becomes very annoyed and flies through the jungle screaming "Fuck YUMAC! Fuck Yumac!"

Huggum - Mullugum Bird

The Huggum Mullugum Bird is a strange animal in its defensive maneuvers against predators. When chased by a predator the Huggum Mullugum bird flies tighter concentric circles until he flies up his asshole and disappears from view of his pursuer...

Drom - A - Dairy

The drom-a-dairy is the cousin of the Cornuc ^{Found in Egypt}. They look almost exactly alike except for one important thing. The drom-a-dairy doesn't eat grass, you see, he just eats sand in the day, and shits bricks at night - hence the pyramids of Egypt.....

First Heard (by informant)

Year

The informant cannot remember where he heard this version

City

County

State

Background on the item, or on the informant:

Mr. Bugg is a graduate in business. He has been playing rugby for four years. Mr. Bug is not so active in the drinking parties after the Rugby games

Collected By

Stephen Anayon

Date

Nov 27, 1967

City

Reside

State

Calif

(over, if necessary)

Ink, Please

Name of Informant

Richard D. Frey

Age 20

Address

18755

City

Victory Blvd.

County

L.A.

State

Calif

of Folklore:

Wild West Show

#10 The Lion

The Lion is, ladies and gentleman, boys and girls a very irration^{able} and ferocious beast. The strange facts about the Lion however, is that it is the only three hundred and fifty pound pussy that eats you.....

#9 The Leo-pard (Leopard)

The Leopard is a member of the cat family and a rare cousin of the leopard. He is different from the leopard because he (Leo-pard) is worshipped by the Hottentots of Africa because he (Leo-pard) has exactly 365 spots, one for every day of the year. For this reason the primitives (Hottentots) worship this animal because the Leo-pard serves as their calendar!

[at this point another person who knows the verse, stands up and interrupts. "Hey!" "Then what happens in leap year?"]

The informant quickly answers "ITS simple they (Hottentots) just lift up his tail..."

#12 The Yumac Bird

The Yumac Bird is a strange and wonderful bird known for its almost turtle-dove call. You see he is an enemy of the hunters and friend to the forest creatures - When he spies a hunter he warns his forest friends by flying over the hunters screaming FUCK YUMAC, FUCK YUMAC

First Heard (by informant)

1965

Year

INGLEWOOD

City

L.A.

County

CALIF.

State

Background on the item, or on the informant:

Richard Frey has played Rugby with San Fernando Valley for two years. He has traveled around the world and has picked up two verses from other places than the U.S.

The informant has a remarkable memory and leads many of the Rugby songs after games.

Collected By

S. Krage

Date

Nov 21 55

City

Riverside

State

Calif

(over, if necessary)

Ink, Please

Name of Informant

Richard Frey

Age 20

Address

18755

Victory Blvd

L.A.

Calif

City

County

State

Item of Folklore: Wild West Show

The Russian Robin

The Russian Robin is a strange and interesting bird. He is the National Bird of the Communist Revolution. One day the White Russians captured a young Bolshevik soldier*. The soldier was condemned to die. But before his death, he was hung up on a scaffold and publicly castrated. Unknown to the populace in the square the Russian Robin had landed on the scaffolding. The bird had never been known to make a sound or a cry, but the proceedings had shocked the bird so much that he began to cry out that great anti-tsarist slogan

Küt'-ya-KoK-AV, Küt'-ya-KoK-AV, (Cut your cock off)

This united the peasants, and helped get rid of the tsarist factions.....

Wild West Show.

The Woman Sheriff

The woman sheriff is a very strange person to have in a western town - She is unique, you might say! Not unique in the fact she's a woman, but unique in the fact that all the men in town are dying to get in her posse.....

First Heard (by informant)

1966

Year

Bolton, Lancashire

City

England

County

State

Background on the item, or on the informant:

Heard by Richard Frey in a pub near Liverpool England

Collected By

Stephen Krays

Date

Nov 21, 1967

City

Riverside

State

Calif

(over, if necessary)

Ink, Please

Name of Informant Richard D. Frey Age 20

Address 18755 Victory Blvd. City Calif
County State

Item of Folklore: Wild West Show

The Gue-laft (giraffe)

The Gue-laft is found on the plains of Central Africa but that's not what's so unusual about this animal. The Gue-laft is the only animal in the animal kingdom that can go into a bar and say the highballs are on me....

First Heard (by informant) 1965 Year Reseda City L.A. County Calif State

Background on the item, or on the informant:

Collected By Stephen Anap Date Nov 21, 1967
City Reseda State Calif

(over, if necessary)

Ink, Please

Name of Informant Richard D. Frey Age 20

Address 18755 Victory Blvd L.A. Calif
City County State

Item of Folklore: Wild West Show

THE Orang-A-Tang

The Orang-A-Tang is found in South East Asia - He is a tree swinging mammal with two huge five pound brass balls. And as he swings through the trees they go A-Rang-A-Tang A-Rang-A-Tang

Russian Yellow-Bellied Breast-Sucker

The Russian Yellow-Bellied Breast Sucker is a bird peculiar to only the Soviet Union. In the summer it flies up from its nesting grounds on the Caspian Sea north to Moscow. It hovers over Red-Square till it spies a flat-chested Russian woman walking in the square - The yellow-bellied breast sucker loses altitude and alights on the certain woman's shoulder screaming in native Russian.

Hoo bit'ya titsov, Hoo bit'ya titsov, (WHO BIT YOUR TITS OFF?)

The Orang-A-Thud

(this song is sung purposely 2-3 verses after the orang-a-tang)

The Orang-A-^{THUD}Tang is just like the Orang-A-Tang except the Orang-A-Thud has 1 huge brass ball and one punching bag. And as he swings through the trees his balls go - A-Rang-A-Thud, A-Rang-A-Thud !!!

Nov 3, 1967

First Heard (by informant) 1966 | Reseda L.A. Calif
Year City County State

Background on the item, or on the informant:

Collected By Stephen Orsini Date Nov 21 57
City Reseda State Calif

(over, if necessary)

The Wild West Show

This song is one of the most popular and is seldom left out. There are hundreds of verses. The chorus is sung by all as are the prearranged reactions (incredible, fantastic etc. The verses are spoken by an individual in his own words after he has raised his hand and waited his turn. This goes on until everyone is tired of the song. I have known it to continue for forty five minutes or more.

Chorus

Oh, we're off to see the wild west show
The elephant and the kangaroo.
Never mind the weather as long
As long as we're together.
We're off to see the wild west show.

Leader-And in this corner ladies and gentlemen we have again the historic event, the battle between the ostrich and the snake.

Everyone-fantastic, incredible, no shit, what the bloody fuck is that?

Leader-round one, anyway, the ostrich comes out of his corner, the snake comes out of his corner. The ostrich glares at the snake, the snake glares at the ostrich. The ostrich leaps at the snake. The snake jumps to the side but the ostrich grabs him anyway and gobbles him up. However, the snake, being a very wily snake, goes down the esophagus, round and round the intestine, and out the fundamental orifice. Round one for the snake.
(Cheering)

Round two. The ostrich comes out of his corner, the snake comes out of his corner, The ostrich glares at the snake, the snake glares at the ostrich. But the ostrich this time immediately leaps at the snake, gobbles up the snake again and puts his fundamental orifice against a wooden panneling. But the snake, being a very wily snake, goes down the

Esophagus, round and round the intestine, and out a knethole in the panneling.

(Cheering)

Round three. The ostrich comes out of his corner, the snake comes out of his corner. The snake glares at the ostrich, the ostrich leaps at the snake. The ostrich again gobbles up the snake and this time puts his own head up his own fundamental orifice and says, "Now loop the loop you bugger."

Chorus

Leader-And in this corner we have the giraffe.

Everyone- The giraffe? Fantastic, incredible, no shit, what the bloody fuck is that?

Leader-The giraffe is a very wily animal, the only one that can walk into a bar and say, "the highballs are on me".

Chorus

Leader-Roll up roll up ladies and gentlemen. In this cage we have the mountain goat.

Everyone-The mountain goat?

Leader- Yes ladies and gentlemen, the mountain goat.

Everyone-Fantastic etc.

Leader-The mountain goat is a very agile animal, lives in the upper Alps, the upper Andies, and the upper Himalayas. And this is a very agile animal, as I said ladies and gentlemen, and this animal jumps from precipice to precipice and back to piss again.

Chorus.

Leader-And in this corner ladies and gentlemen we have the ke ke bird.

Everyone-The ke ke bird?

Leader-The ke ke bird

Everyone-Fantastic etc.

Leader-The ke ke bird is a very unusual bird. All it does is fly around the North Pole and Slide down icebuggs. And then it goes up to the top of the ice...to the top of the iceburg and slides down again. Then you can hear its cry going across the frozen north going "ke ke ke rist its cole".

University of Maryland
Co. 1965

Ink, Please

Name of Informant

BRUCE RUMIK

Age

22

Address

LOS ANGELES

LOS ANGELES

CALIF

City

County

State

Item of Folklore:

SONG : "WILD WEST SHOW"

CHORUS: OH! WE'RE OFF TO SEE THE WILD WEST SHOW
 THE ELEPHANTS AND THE KANGAROO
 NO MATTER WHAT THE WEATHER
 AS LONG AS WE'RE TOGETHER
 WE'RE OFF TO SEE THE WILD WEST SHOW

VERSE: LADIES & GENTLEMEN
 MAY I INTRODUCE TO YOU
 THE ORANGATANE
 THE ONLY LIVING ANIMAL IN CAPTIVITY
 WITH GLASS BALLS
 NOW WHEN THIS AMAZING CREATURES
 SWINGS THROUGH THE FOREST HIS
 BALLS GO O-RANG-A-TANG

VERSE 2: THE BENGAL TIGER
 THIS ANIMAL IS THE ONLY 300 LB PUSSY
 THAT WILL EAT YOU

VERSE 3: THE FOOM-FOOM BIRD
 FLIES IN FLOCKS OF 3
 & WHEN CONFRONTED WITH AN ADVERSARY
 THE 3RD FOOM-FOOM BIRD, & THE
 2ND FOOM FOOM BIRD FLY UP EACH OTHER'S

First Heard (by informant) 1962 | LOS ANGELES LOS ANGELES (OVER)
 Year City County State

Background on the item, or on the informant:

THE INFORMANT LEARNED SONG IN FRATERNITY -
 HE KNEW MANY MORE VERSES BUT WHICH ARE
 VERY COMMON. THESE HE THOUGHT WOULD
 BE SOME OF THE NEWER VERSES. THE SONG
 HAS OVER 80 VERSES TO IT.

Collected By

Suzanne Gray

Date

Oct. 14, 1967

City

Los Angeles

State

California

(over, if necessary)

ASS HOLE
AND THE FIRST FOOM-FOOM BIRD FLIES UP
THE 3RD FOOM-FOOM BIRD'S ASS HOLE
LEAVING THEIR ADVERSARY IN TOTAL DARKNESS

VERSE: BABOON
THE ONLY ANIMAL IN CAPTIVITY WITH RUBBER BALLS
NOW WHEN THIS AMAZING CREATURE
SWINGS THROUGH THE FOREST
HIS BALLS GO - BABOON - BABOON - BABOON

VERSE: L-E-O-PARD
THE ONLY ANIMAL IN CAPTIVITY WITH ONE
SPOT ON HIM FOR EVERYDAY OF THE YEAR
(ONE PERSON IN AUDIENCE ASKS ABOUT FEB. 29TH) THE
SPEAKER SAYS: ASSISTANT LIFT HIS TAIL
FOR FEBRUARY 29TH.

181 Brighton Ave.,
Downsview, Ontario,
August 17, 1969.

Dear Dick,

It is now one o'clock in the morning and we have just returned from the Toronto airport where we saw my mother off on a trip to Switzerland. While waiting I got some great books in the airport bookshop and thought you might be interested.

This appears to be the old address. The new address is in Rugby Jokes

Why Was He Born So Beautiful and Other Rugby Songs with a preface by Michael Green (Sphere Books Limited, 30/32 Grays Inn Road, London W.C.1) first published in 1967 and reprinted in 1968 and 1969, 95¢/ paperback. contains 140 songs including Eskimo Nell and The Good Ship Venus. (#62278)

More Rugby Songs (Sphere Books Ltd. etc.) 1968. paperback ~~4222~~ (#62286) 95¢

* No editor or author is given. In More Rugby Songs there is a version of The Wild West Show pp. 101-103. Shall I zerox it for you or do you already have this book. Much to my surprise one section of the Wild West Show bears a striking resemblance to a joke I collected last summer. It was told in a macaronic of English and Yiddish and was set in the immigrant culture of Toronto circa 1935. It is known as 'the laughing hyena' and was highly elaborated by the narrator but the gist of the joke is that a poor immigrant ~~xxx~~ slaves to send his son to college and then one day the son invites the father to attend a class with him to see what goes on. As they sit there, the professor proceeds to lecture upon the subject of the habits of the laughing hyena noting that the laughing hyena only eats once a year, drinks once in two years, shits once in three years and screws once in 7 years. The son translates the lecture to the father and the father asks, "If the laughing hyena only eats once a year, drinks once in two years, shits once in three and screws once in 7 years, what the hell is he laughing about?" When I found The Wild West Show I was reminded of this joke by the verse:

"Now here, ladies and gentlemen, in the first cage we have the laughing hyena. This ~~animal~~ animal lives in the mountains and once every two years he comes down to drink and once every three ~~years~~ years he comes down for sexual intercourse. What the ***** hell he has to laugh about, I don't know." (p. 101)

Also I bought these paperbacks:

Rugby Jokes (Sphere Books Ltd., 40 Park Street, London W.1) 1968, 1969 95¢ # 93866

Fuller, Edmund, 2500 Anecdotes For All Occasions (originally published as Thesaurus of Anecdotes) Dolphin Books, Doubleday and Company, Inc. Garden City, New York (Thesaurus was published in 1948; 2500 Anecdotes was published 1961 #C191.

1943

all the best,

Barbara

New York

Folklore

Quarterly

5

SEPTEMBER 1968

"Folksongs of the American Circus"

Marcello Truzzi

FOLKSONGS OF THE AMERICAN CIRCUS

MARCELLO TRUZZI

THE songs of the American Circus comprise a largely unrecorded and unexplored segment of our musical heritage. This socially insulated community of occupations has produced a fascinating subculture full of song and lore in a manner somewhat similar to those geographically isolated regions of our country which have dominated the interests of folksong scholarship. [I have presented a more general description of this body of lore in "The American Circus as a source of Folklore" in *Southern Folklore Quarterly*, 30 (1966), 289-300.]

This is rather remarkable in view of the romantic attraction of the circus. Much like gypsies, early bands of performers traversed this nation from coast to coast developing not only a unique form of theatre but also a specialized set of traditions. From its early origins in the medieval fair and the *Commedia dell' Arte*, the circus has passed its heritage — including the techniques and crafts involved in its performances — through oral tradition.

The modern form of the circus was initiated in 1770 in England by Philip Astley. Based on this model, it was introduced into the United States by John Bill Ricketts (an equestrian and friend of George Washington) in 1793. This early circus was a single ring entertainment, a form still dominant in Europe. Before the introduction of three rings in 1870, the American circus was much more intimate than we now generally see it, and a major element in any circus was the singing and talking clown.

Clown Songs

In these early days (up to the disappearance of the single ring about 1920), the circus clown was an exceptionally talented performer who sang both his own compositions and the popular songs of the day. He wrote topical songs and parodies, told jokes, gave recitations, and usually led the audience in song. Those latter songs were printed in souvenir songsters that the audience purchased. Fortunately, many of these songsters have survived in private collections, the largest being the Harry Hertzberg Collection in the San Antonio Library that contains more than 30 of the anthologies.

Looking through these songsters, most of which are dated between 1860 and 1890, one finds many fascinating items. A typical songster is one titled *Johnny Patterson's Irish Rambler from Clare Songster* published for a great clown who was then with the John B. Doris Great Inter-Ocean Show (circa, 1879). Patterson wrote most of these songs, including the relatively well known "The Garden Where the Praties Grow." Many selections were written in dialect — Irish, Dutch, and Negro comic speech being the most common. Highly sentimental and moralizing songs were other popular types.

The greatest of all circus clowns was Dan Rice (1823-1900). Rice appeared in Uncle Sam whiskers with a trained pig. His humor and songs were mostly topical. In 1860, Rice earned \$1000 per week, then a phenomenal sum. He was so popular that President Zachary Taylor named him an aide with the rank of colonel. Many of Rice's songs have been preserved in *Dan Rice's Original Comic and Sentimental Poetic Effusions*, published in 1859. Among the many songs he made famous were "Hard Times," "Root Hog or Die," and "Blue Eagle Jail." Other performers borrowed and adapted Rice's compositions. Rice took the salient events of the day and wrote them into song. Thus

when his circus had a then-common battle with a competing circus, Rice used the tune of "Susannah" to sing:

They posted placards all about,
To prove he was no clown,
His Shakespeare wit all common stuff,
He couldn't "dish it brown."
All this they said, and plenty more,
Till Dan began to feel
A leetle riled about the gills.
And thought he'd have to peel.
Chorus: Oh! Bill Spriggens,
Who heav'd that last brick bat,
It didn't hit Dan Rice's head,
It only smashed his hat!

Rice often used popular tunes of the day to fit his lyrics. A clever example was his "Dan Rice's Impromptu" set to the tune of "Old Dan Tucker."

Old Dan Rice has come again,
And brings good humor in his train,
His object everybody sees,
Is to tickle the young, the old to please.
Then come along away blue devils,
Dan's the boy to break your revels. — *Repeat.*

The ladies first, I'm proud to see,
Are smiling sweetly down on me;
They bloom around me just like roses,
And look so lovely in their josies.
O, the ladies, bless the creatures,
Charming all in form and features. — *Repeat.*

The gentlemen look bright, ahem!
Because the ladies smile on them;
They brush up their hair and pull up their collars,
While Dan Rice makes them hand out the dollars.

For O, the gents, their dearest trade is
To see the fun and please the ladies. — *Repeat.*

Now here we all are in the best of humor,
With a house full of folks, though there might be a few more.
I've given you my song to the tune of Dan Tucker,
And now I'll go home and get my supper.

For Old Dan Rice, unlike Dan Tucker,
Is never too late to get his supper;
O Daniel Rice, unlike Dan Tucker,
Was never too late to get his supper.

Rice would often sing about the town he was in, thus ingrati-
ating himself to its citizenry.

Good old Baltimore,

A city fair to see.

With her noble sons and daughters,

O that's the town for me.

His greatest success, however, was in his political songs, such
as "Dan Rice's Song at Niblo's Garden, New York, Feb. 1859,"
from *Dan Rice's Original Comic and Sentimental Poetic Effu-
sions* (1859), and sung to the tune of "Root Hog or Die," a
tune closely associated with Rice that some claim he wrote. For
an example of the music see: Irwin Silber, *Songs of the Civil
War* (New York, 1960), pages 240-241.

There's Mister Buchanan who shows he has a will,
By sending to Congress the Thirty Million Bill;
He wants to purchase Cuba, because, 'twixt you and I,
He knows the other nations will root hog or die.
Chief cook and bottle-washer, head of all debaters,
Jimmy has his eye abroad, the best of speculators.
He tells the Spanish government, if they will sell he'll buy,
Or if they will not come to terms he'll root hog or die.

But Seward gets up, and opposes with a speech,
What he thinks of policy a very serious breach.
He says that the island will come by and bye.

Is gravitating back again, to root hog or die.
Chief cook and bottle washer, one of honor's waiters.
Billy hopes the White House yet will furnish him with taters;
He talks about the public purse, and keeps on it his eye,
Because he thinks to pull the strings, root hog or die.

No matter how the Congress acts, before the lapse of years,
Fair Cuba will be ours, in smiles and not in tears.
Then Spain, her jewel lost, will turn her face awry,
And make her wretched people all root hog or die.
Chief cook and bottle washer, among the Lelands' waiters.
General Concha will be placed, to fetch along the taters.
His office gone, his wealth all spent, the tyrant here will try
To make himself a better man, and root hog or die

Some people choose to name, for the coming President,
Your humble servant Rice, and on his election bent,
They ask for his views, and they'll find bye-and-bye.
That if he accepts the place he will root hog or die.
Chief cook and bottle washer, the tallest kind of taters,
Rice's crop of public acts would be peace regulators;
He'd take in Cuba and the lands that west of it do lie,
And bring both Continents in one, to root hog or die.

One of the morning papers, well posted in such rules,
Says Rice could guide a Cabinet, because he trained the mules;
His ready hand would check them, or make them onward fly,
Until each Secretary there would root hog or die.
Chief cooks and bottle washers, none would act like traitors,
Nor adopt the silly airs of other proud inflators;
Never at their duties should they baulk or shy,
Each department should progress to root hog or die.

Another paper published here, so apt at making schisms,
And known from Maine to Florida for its peculiar isms,
Has fixed its nerveless grasp upon poor helpless I,
And makes itself the greatest fool to root hog or die.
Chief of the Socialists, the dough-head commentators,
The Fourierites and Slievegammons, and ultra Free Love maters

At whatever seemeth good, they raise their puppy cry,
But perhaps they'll have at last to root hog or die.

Another golden fever, too, on California shines,
And thousands rush to pick the ore from Frazer River mines;
But taxes eat their substance up, the governor so sly,
Demands his fees, which all must pay, root hog or die.
Chief cook and bottle washer, high prices paid for taters,
Bulwer Lytton gives his smile to Yankee innovators;
And when the river ebbs a bit the cradles all will fly,
And nuggets found of mountain size, root hog or die.

The latest sport afforded to the people of this place,
Is one of fun and frolic, of beauty and of grace:
Up in the Central Park the skating pond does lie,
There thousands of the citizens root hog or die.
Chief cook and bottle washer, thousands of spectators,
Look upon the scene, where handsome lady skaters
Turn about and go ahead, and twist, and halt, and fly,
And show that they, as well as men, can root hog or die.

Examination of these old songsters sometimes even turns up a British traditional ballad. For example, *Bob Smith's Clown Song and Joke Book* includes a variant of Lord Lovel (Child no. 75).

The most interesting pieces, however, are those about the circus itself. *Tom Barry's Van Amburgh and Reiche Bros. Clown Songster* (1882) contains several of these. An excellent example is "Circus Difficulties" as sung by Johnny Patterson to the tune of "Irish Candidate":

A good morning to you all, we come in to make a call,
To tell you of the troubles we have seen.
We're a couple of circus men: to the North Pole we have been,
But our salary was so high they made us fall.
When we joined the circus band, we was the greatest in the land;
We had diamond pins and smoked the best cigars.

And the ladies used to say, oh their hearts would give away;
They're the daisies on the horizontal bars.

Chorus: We can turn a double somersault,
A flip-flap or a front,

We can leap the horses forty,

It is queer how we do so,

It is all nerve, and if you will observe,

We have got the knack of standing on our ear.

Oh, we're going to get a job with the circus in the spring.

For to carry the centre pole from town to town;

We can ride around the ring, and so gayly can we sing:

We can caper up as cute as any clown.

We can act on the trapeze, do a twister from our knees,

Oh, I tell you we have got an awful gall:

For to see us on the bars, we're as handsome as the stars.

Oh, we think that we can paralyze them all.

Chorus: Oh, get on to our nobby style,

We are happy all the while;

We're the brothers to the man from Donegal;

But we'll leave you for a while

Till we go and get a smile,

We'll come back again and do a funny fall.

Another song was the "Circus Show, as sung by Billy Radcliffe" and published in *Happy Billy Radcliffe's Songster* (ca. 1870). The lyrics are to be sung, obviously, to the well-known tune of "Vicar of Bray."

A circus came to town to-day. I went to see the show,
sir,

I rode four miles through the sand; it made me puff
and blow, sir.

There were animals both great and small boiling up
with rage, sir,

And a fellow with a barber's pole was stirring them
up in a cage, sir.

CHORUS:

If that ain't so, I hope to die, and I want you all to
know, sir,

You'll loose your hair and both your eyes at a country
circus show, sir

There were grizzly bears from mountain tops, buffalos
from the prairies.

Kangaroos and crockadiles, and lots of Irish fairies.
They had a row into the tent about a lot of hash.
Onion skins and cabbage stalks broke out with scarlet
rash.

The elephant sat on his trunk, winking at the foxes;
The kangaroo sat on his tail eating dry good boxes.
The lion he commenced to roar like a busted concertina;
He slammed the tiger on the floor and eat up the
hyena.

The leonard he commenced to scratch the weasel in
the eye, sir,
The camel he got up his hump and swallowed the
blue tail fly, sir;
The crockadile commenced to grunt, the bear began to
shake her,
The Buffalo he made a jump and swallowed the
aligator.

The gorilla told the monk he lied, the parrots began to
stutter.
Seven loads of feather-beds all dumped into the gutter;
You ought to see dis feller git and fall on his propossus
I kicked, and bit, and scratched, and fit with the female
Rhinoceros.

Another example from the same date as the foregoing ap-
peared in *The Clowns "Shoo Fly" Songster* and also cataloged
the animals in "The Royal Wild Beast Show."

Come, stand aside, good people all, and hear what I've to say:
But let the little dears come up, what's going for to pay?

At all the courts in Europe we are reckon'd quite the go,
Then pay your six pences and see the Royal Wild Beast Show.

Chorus: The camomiles, the crocodiles and all that you could wish;
The mice and rats, and tabby cats, and other kinds of fish;
A dozen sphinxes up-side down and standing in a row;
It's only six pence each to see the Royal Wild Beast Show.

The first one is the kangaroo, you'll know him by his hump;
The next's the hippopotamus, you ought to see him jump;
The third's the aligator and he's such a one to crow,
He wakes us every morning in the Royal Wild Beast Show.
The camomiles, &c.

That pretty thing's the oozley bird, the other one's his aunt,
The third we call the pelican, the next the pelican;
The other one's the solon goose — you musn't call out bo!
Or you will hurt his feelings in the Royal Wild Beast Show.
The camomiles, &c.

The donkey in the corner with the tiger on his arm,
Comes from Assyria, where once his father kept a farm;
That billy-goat that's dress'd in pink and walking rather slow,
Is very *hornimental* in a Royal Wild Beast Show.
The camomiles, &c.

The tortoise, famous for his speed, unequal'd by a horse;
The parrot, too, who talks in *polly*-syllables, of course;
The raging elephants that roar when stormy winds do blow,
Are also represented in the Royal Wild Beast Show.
The camomiles, &c.

The next one is a mighty ape, indeed, I tell you true;
It's only natural he should "go walking in the Zoo;"
Our stock of monkeys, you'll observe, at present is but low—
They are so plentiful outside the Royal Wild Beast Show.
The camomiles, &c.

The last's the boa constrictor, who eats all he finds about—
Why, who's been fool enough to let the nasty crittur out!

He's somewhere underneath the chairs, hi! mind your legs,
hullo!

He's very quick in clearing out the Royal Wild Beast Show.
The camomiles, &c.

In many ways, the most interesting of these songs is "Jumbo"
referring, of course, to P.T. Barnum's great elephant attraction.

Now Jumbo is an elephant very high,
His feet are on the ground, and his head's in the sky;
When Jumbo wants to go on a drunk
He puts a barrel of whiskey in his trunk;
He weighs seven hundred and forty tons.
And the size of his feet is seventy-one's;
His skin is about seven yards thick,
And he knocked down the Brooklyn Bridge with a kick;
His favorite drink is rock and rye,
He can drink the Atlantic ocean dry,
He eats a load of wood and a ton of coal,
And he picks his teeth with a telegraph pole,
If you went to the show 'twould make you laugh,
To see him sparring with the big giraffe;
Last week he got mad at the Kangaroo,
And knocked him clean out to Kalamazoo.
Now the elephant Jumbo has queer taste.
He wants to put corsets round his waist;
They say he is struck on the Circassian girls,
And he paints his face and wears spit-curls;
When he hears stale gags from the circus clown
He'll take his trunk and knock him down.
CHORUS: Old P.T. Barnum, as you know,
Over to England did go.
As he could not got the Queen for his show,
So he brought here the Queen's old friend Jumbo.

He and Sullivan are going to box,
And he made Paddy Ryan rock;
Anna Dickinson wants him on the stage to appear,
And they both will murder poor Bill Shakespeare;

Bob Ingersoll to him a yarn did tell,
When he showed Bob there was a hell;
He'll play *Macbeth* at the Brooklyn "Volks,"
And play Seven-Up with Irishtown mokes;
The audience will laugh till they split their sides.
While behind a schooner of beer Gus Behman hides.
He'll give temperance lectures with President Hayes,
And walk round the world in seven days;
And when Jumbo will get tired of a single life,
He'll ask Sarah Bernhardt to be his wife.
A Jumbonian woman he will be,
For he'll marry the whole menagerie.

Work Chanteys

A second major form of circus song was the work chantey
intoned by canvasmen as they tugged at the tent ropes to take
up the slack. The last line of the chantey was an indication by
the caller to move on to the next ropes. Thus, one might hear:

I hit my wife (Yo, heave).
With a singletree (Yo, heave);
You ought to hear her holler (Yo, heave)
Oh, Lordee, don't murder me (Yo, heave);
Down-stake . . .

These chanteys incorporated whatever the lead canvasman
felt like stating. Thus, he might insert something about his tribu-
lations with a woman.

My Lulu's gone to Kansas (Yo, ho),
I told her not to go (Yo, ho).
And now she's wading (Yo, ho),
In the cold and icy snow (Yo, ho);
Next rope . . .

This procedure, called "ragging out" has largely vanished
with the demise of the circus tent and the advent of automatic

stake drivers that have replaced the old sledge hammer crews. So, these chanteys, like the sea chanteys which they much resemble, are infrequently heard today. Although they still exist among workcrews of the smaller tent circuses which dot the nation, they retain little of their early color or music. Those heard today are usually short and highly mechanical sounding and are unlike the early chanteys. A chantey of the early 1900's might go:

Oh, come along, you children, come (heigh-ho);
Put your hands on a pole and do your part (heigh-ho);
Let's push them up and set them straight (heigh-ho);
Yes, sir, bossman says let's not be late (heigh-ho).

We all know it's a dirty old rag (heigh-ho);
Oh, but it's a good old rag (heigh-ho);
Yes, sir, it's a big old rag (heigh-ho)
Today it is a (wet) old rag (heigh-ho).

Man, you know it's (Ringling's) old rag (heigh-ho),
And (Mr. Ringling) wants it up (heigh-ho).
A chantey today would be an inarticulate "Rear back, jump, jump, jump, walk along."

A Word on Sources

The circus today, in comparison with its Golden Age at the turn of the century when more than a hundred criss-crossed our nation, is but a shadow of its once-spectacular image in American entertainment. One may still obtain examples of its lore from among the older survivors, and, of course, new lore is constantly in development in the modernized circus. But the old clown songs and the work chanteys are now a memory alive only in the minds of a few now elderly informants and in the private collections of circus historians. For those interested in the circus, in general, the basic reference source is the compilation by Raymond Toole-Stett, *Circus and Allied Arts: A World Bibliography* in three volumes. Those interested in clown songs will

find many entries for songsters in this bibliography. They may consult the largest collection of them in the Harry Hertzberg Collection. For articles on songsters, one can check the indexes of *The Bandwagon* (the magazine of the Circus Historical Society), *Hobbies*, and *Etude*. The only source for work chanteys, other than field informants, is an article by Tom Parkinson in the May 27, 1957, issue of the outdoor entertainment industries' magazine, *The Billboard*.

The American Circus has been a unique cultural phenomenon and a major contribution to our heritage. It is certainly hoped that others will attempt to salvage the few remnants that are still left to us out of its once extensive body of folklore and song.

THE WILD WEST SHOWChorus:

We're off to see the Wild West Show,
 The elephants and the kangaroo,
 Never mind the weather,
 As long as we're together.
 We're off to see the Wild, West Show.

(Leader:)

Step right up, step right up,
 Ladies and gentlemen,
 In this corner we have the: I) O-NO-BIRD

(Group)

The O-NO-BIRD (etc.); what's the O-NO-BIRD?

(Answer:)

The O-NO-BIRD is a bird of the air,
 Whose testicles are ten inches
 longer than the rest of his body and
 everytime he comes in for a landing
 he can be heard to say: O-NO! O-NO!

Chorus

2) ORANGUTANG

An ORANGUTANG Is a jungle beast who
 has two testicles made of solid
 brass and as he swings from trees
 he can be heard for miles
 ORANG -- UTANG.

Chorus

3) FUCKAWI TRIBE

The Fuckawi tribe is a tribe of
 pygmies in central Africa. They
 roam the Savannah grasslands.
 They are three feet tall, the grass
 is four feet tall. This accounts
 for why every once in a while you
 can hear them say "Where the fuckawi".

Chorus

4) ZEBRA

A Zebra is the largest size.

....continued

Chorus

5) OMATOOLI BIRD

An Omatooli bird is a bird whose penis is thirteen inches longer than his body, and as he flies over tall trees he can be heard to say: Omatooli, Omatooli.

Chorus

6) KANGAROO

Only animal in kingdom who finds it culturally permissible to crawl into its mother.

Chorus

7) LEOPARD

A leopard is an animal with 114 spots. What, you only see 113! Well, lift his tail!

Chorus

8) GIRAFFE

A giraffe is the only animal in the kingdom who can walk into a bar and say the high balls are on me.

Chorus

9) TIGER

A tiger is a 400-pound pussy who eats you.

Chorus

Collected by Peter Thomas and Gary
Waggoner from Canadian (Windsor)
National Guard regiment, Dec. 1970.

Wild west Jack Pridel 5/17/91
Leader:
Ladies + gentlemen:

In this corner, we have the
Unopposed Spider.

Chorus:

The Homosexual Spider??

FANTASTIC. Incredible
Tell us more about it!

leaves:

The Homestead spider instead
of catching flies opens them
(sing choruses)

Guy who sang was Frank Winters -
Plays for Windsor Borderers Rugby
club - learned in Brit. Columbia
where did college rugby (late '60s)

The Wild West Show

We're off to see the Wild West Show-oh-oh,
The elephants and the kangaroo-oo-oo,
Never mind the weather, as long as we're together,
We're off to see the Wild West Show.

And in this corner, ladies and gentlemen, we have the . . . the African Bull Frog.

The African Bull Frog??? Fannnnnnnn-tastic! Innannnnnn-credible! What the fuck is an African Bull Frog?

The African Bull Frog, ladies and gentlemen, in that far corner, is a little frog about three inches high.

Ohhhh! Awwwww! Three inches high?

But he's got a prick six inches high.

Six inches high???

You can hear his call throughout the night: "Rub it, rub it, rub it . . ."

Rub it, rub it, rub it . . .
Refrain

Ladies and gentlemen, in this cage we have the OOrang-ootang.

The Oorang-ootang??? Fannnnnnnn-tastic! Innannnnnn-credible! What the fuck is an Oorang-ootang?

This rare ape in the darkest jungles of Africa, ladies and gentlemen, has two brass testicles.

Two brass testicles???

And as he swings through the trees, all that can be heard is oo-Rang, oo-Tang, oo-RANG, oo-TANG, OO-RANG, oo-TANG . . .

oo-RANG, oo-TANG, oo-RANG, oo-TANG . . .
Refrain

And in this corner, ladies and gentlemen, we have the winkie-wackie bird.

The winkie-wackie bird??? Fannnnnnnn-Tastic! Innannnnnn-credible! What the fuck is a winkie-wackie bird?

The winkie-wackie is a very rare bird whose foreskin is attached to his eyelids. So, when he winks, he wacks, and when he wacks, he winks.

Refrain

19th Century American Circus song
derivative, with parallels + antecedents
in Europe. One of these days I'll
get to the study of this song
I've been meaning to write up.

Collected from the Ill Rugby Club, Fall, 1976, by John Sherry

And in this corner, ladies and gentlemen, we have the mathematical impossibility.

The Mathematical impossibility??? Fannnnnn-tastic! Innnnnn-credible! What the fuck is the mathematical impossibility?

A beautiful, buxomous, gorgeous, blue-eyed blonde who's ate before she's seven.

Refrain

And in this corner, ladies and gentlemen, we have the Siberian tiger.

The Siberian tiger??? Fannnnnn-tastic! Innnnnn-credible! What the fuck is the Siberian tiger?

Ladies and gentlemen, the Siberian tiger is the only 900 pound pussy that eats you!

Refrain

Ladies and gentlemen, in this cage we have the masturbating bear.

The masturbating bear??? Fannnn-tastic! Innnn-credible! What the fuck is the masturbating bear?

The masturbating bear, ladies and gentlemen, has the paws that refreshes.

Refrain

And in that far corner we have . . . there it is . . . in the tree . . . the Ooie-ooie bird.

The Ooie-ooie bird??? Fannnnnn-tastic! Innnnnn-credible! What the fuck is an Ooie-ooie bird?

The Ooie-ooie bird, just like the African Bull Frog, is only three inches high, but this little dude has balls that hang down six inches. And when he comes in for a landing at night, you can hear his cry: OOIE OOIE OOIE OOIE!

Refrain

Ladies and gentlemen, in this cage we have the Oo-ah bird.

The Oo-ah bird??? Fannnn-tastic! Innnn-credible! What the fuck is an Oo-ah bird?

Oh, this peculiar cousin of the Ooie-ooie bird lives in the polar regions, the male of the species at the North pole, and the female of the species at the South pole. They only meet on midsummer night's eve, at the equator. And for miles around, all that can be heard is: OO-AH, OO-AH, OO-AH . . .

OO-AH, OO-AH, OO-AH . . .

Refrain

Ladies and gentlemen, in this cage we have the State Rugby Club Pervertable.

The State Rugby Club Pervertable??? Fannn-tastic! Innnn-credible! What the fuck is a State Rugby Club Pervertable?

The State Rugby Club Pervertable, owned by the evil Dr. F. Johnson, is the only vehicle where you can get ate in the front and 69 in the back.

Refrain

In that corner we have the Fuckahwee tribe.

The Fuckahwee tribe??? Fannnn-tastic! Innnn-credible! What the fuck is the Fuckahwee tribe?

The Fuckahwee tribe ladies and gentlemen, is made up of a tribe of . . . Marty's. They roll around in the grass blades of Wisconsin six feet high, and you can hear their cry throughout the day and night: "Where the fuck are we, where the fuck are we, where the fuck are we . . .?"

Where the fuck are we, where the fuck are we, where the fuck are we . . .?
Refrain

Ladies and gentlemen, in this cage we have the color of the ground of Custer's last stand.

The color of the ground of Custer's last stand??? Fannn-tastic! Innnn-credible! What the fuck is the color of the ground of Custer's last stand?

The color of the ground of Custer's last stan, ladies and gentlemen, was white, because those Indians kept comin' and comin' and comin' . . .

And comin' and comin' and comin' . . .
Refrain

Ladies and gentlemen, in this cage we have the American bald eagle.

The American bald eagle??? Fannnn-tastic! Innnn-credible! What the fuck is.. the American bald eagle?

This rare bird of prey, the finest in the New World, soars at a height of 10,000 feet, and with his sharp eyes he sees a snake wriggling along the ground. He swoops down on the snake, gobbles him up and returns to a height of 10,000 feet. But the snake, being no fool, wriggles through the eagle's . . . esophagus, through his intestines, and looks out his anal orifice and says, "Eagle - how high are we flying?" And the eagle says, "Oh, about 10,000 feet." And the snake says, "You wouldn't shit me, would you, Charlie?"

Refrain

Ladies and gentlemen, in this corner we have Dean Doyle.

Dean Doyle???? Fannnn-tastic! Innnnn-credible! What the fuck is a Dean Doyle?

Dean Doyle, if you haven't noticed, is the only man on the State Rugby Club who has . . . a twelve inch tongue.

A twelve inch tongue???

And when he takes his girl back at night, he puts her down, and he eats her so dry that in the morning she has to prime herself to piss.

Refrain

Step up ladies and gentlemen. In this corner we have the Hurricane.

The Hurricane??? Fannnn-tastic! Innnnn-credible! What the fuck is the Hurricane?

Well there was this guy, he walks into a whorehouse, see? He asks what the day's special is, the lady says it's the Hurricane. He goes, "Okay - I'll take it." Fucker goes upstairs, whore comes up, takes his clothes off, lays down in the bed, squats on his face and farts. He goes, "Fuck! What was that?" She goes, "That was the wind, that was the wind, that was the wind." Then she gets down, bangs his head between her boobs, and he goes, "What was that?" She goes, "That was the thunder, the fuckin' thunder, man, the thunder." And then . . .and then she gets down and squats down on his face and pisses all over him. She goes, "That was the rain, that was the rain." He gets up and he says, "Shit!", puts on his clothes, walks outside. She goes, "What's a matter?" He goes, "Aw, I can't fuck in this kinda weather!"

Refrain